Emma

9

Kaoru Mori

Emma

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Kaoru Mori

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Chapter 7:
Erich and Teo

<IT'S AN ACORN.>

<HERE, TEO.>

<YES, MADAM.>

<WE OUGHT TO TRY SERVING IT AT OUR NEXT PARTY.>

<THE FRUITCAKE WAS DELICIOUS.>

<OHH.>

<ACORNS!>

<FATHER!>

<WELL.>

<FATHER?>

<THERE ARE A LOT ON THE GROUND OVER HERE!>

<AH! LOOK, LOOK!>

<ONLY A FEW.>

<CAN WE BRING ACORNS HOME?>

<ALL RIIIGHT.>

<IT'S TIME, ERICH, ILSE.>

<WE'RE GOING HOME NOW.>

<I THINK IT'S TIME, DARLING.>

Chapter 7:
Erich and Teo

<WHAT IS IT, ERICH?>

<MOTHER! MOTHER!>

<WE'RE LEAVING AL-READY?>

<IT WILL BE NIGHT BY THE TIME WE ARRIVE HOME.>

ブル
BURU (SHUDDER)

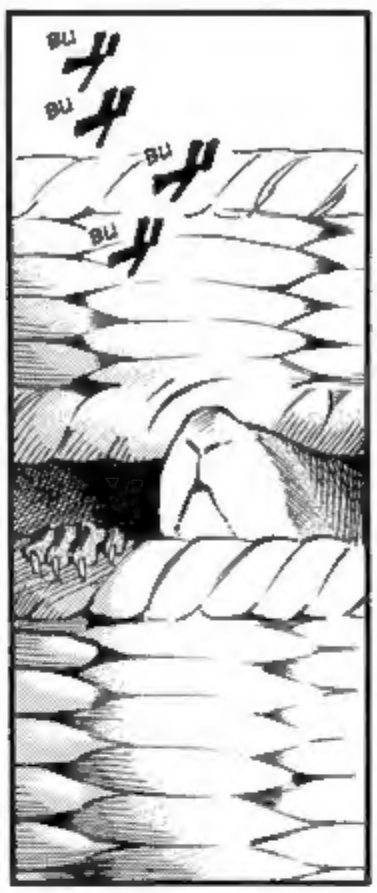
<ER...>

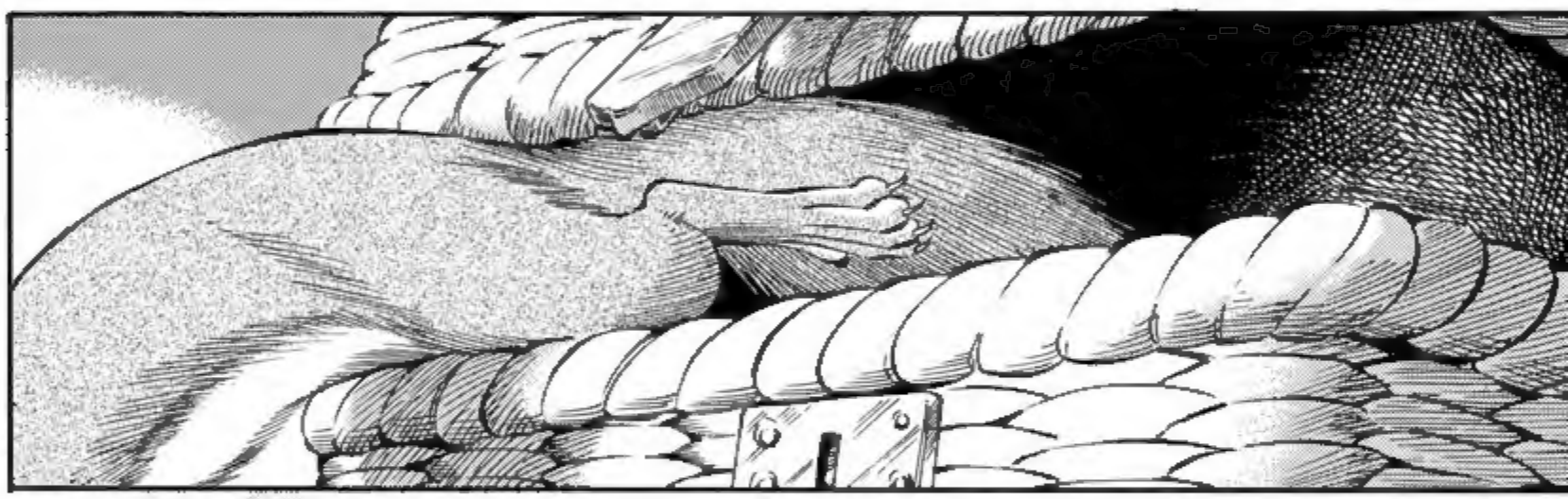
<I, UH...>

<OH, YES, IF YOU WOULD.>

<MAD-AM.>

<I'LL TAKE HIM.>





<DID YOU WASH YOUR HANDS?>

<YES!>

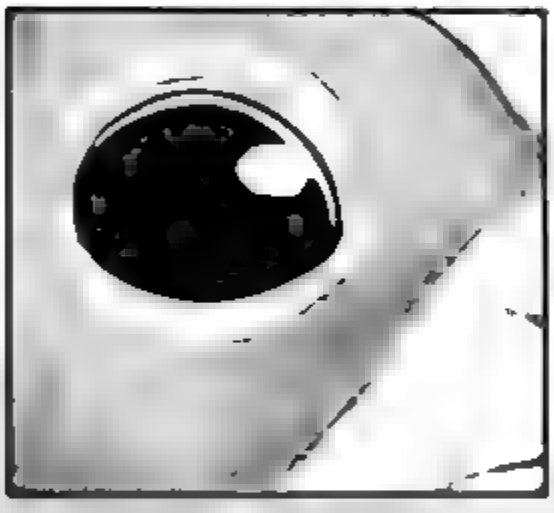
<COM-ING!>

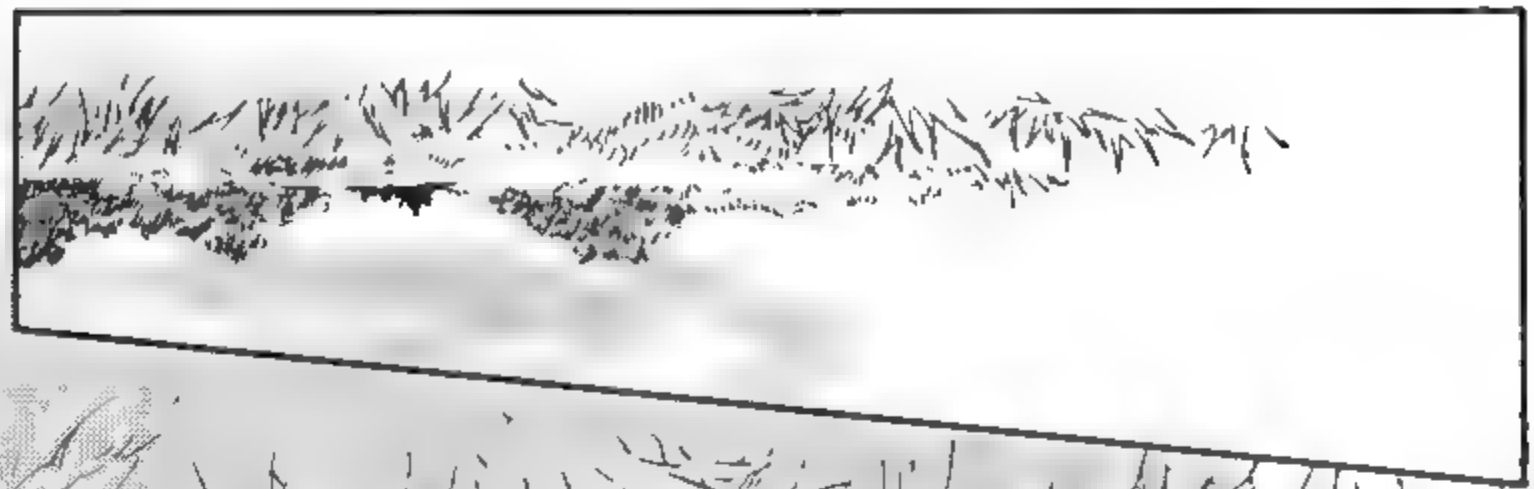
<HURRY AND GET ON.>

<THEN, WE'RE GOING.>

<TEO!>

PACHIN CLICK





ガチャ

ゴト

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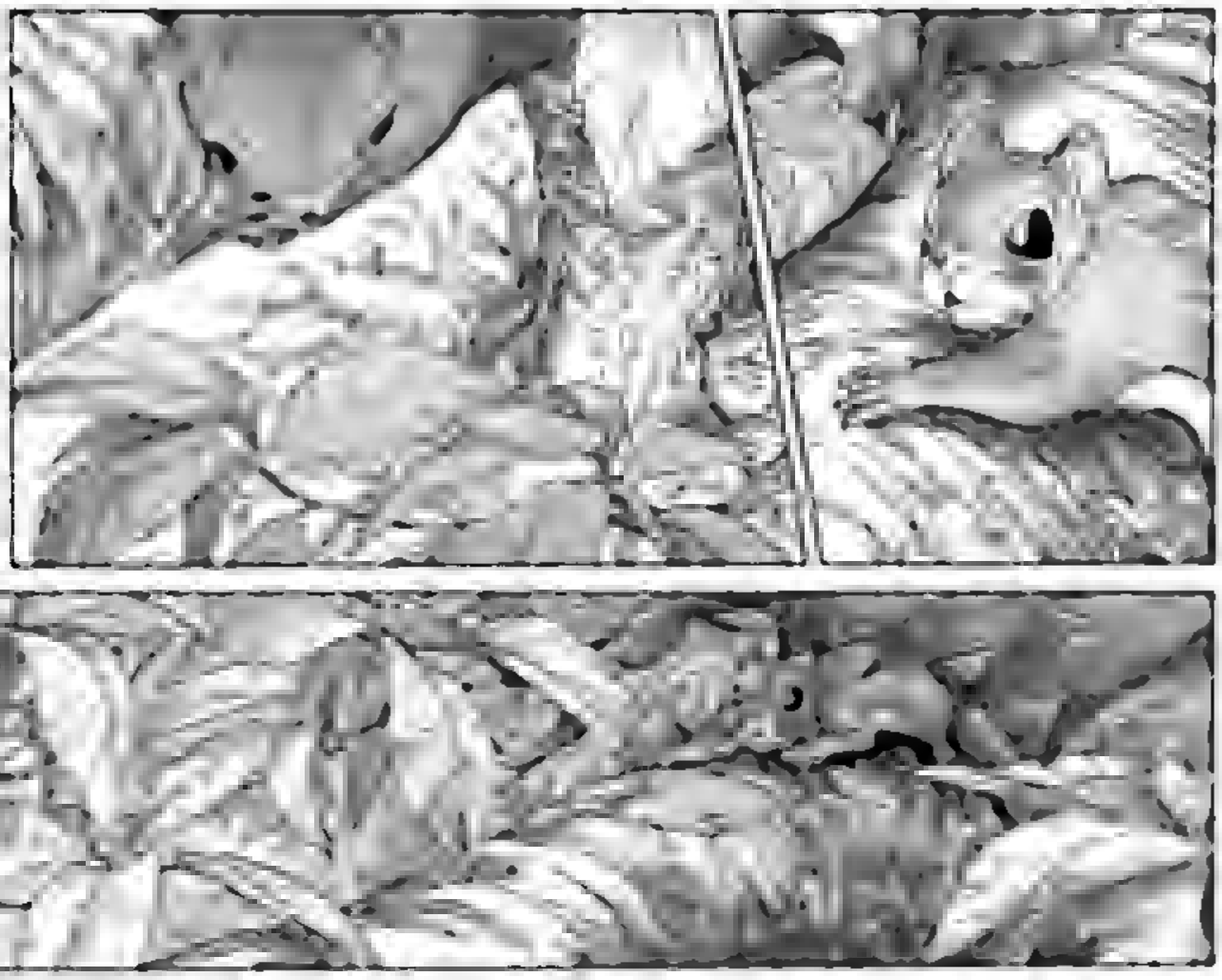
(EVEN
THIS IS
QUIET)

(ASLEEP
AT
READY?)

(THERE'S
NO ONE
OUT THERE
PLAYING)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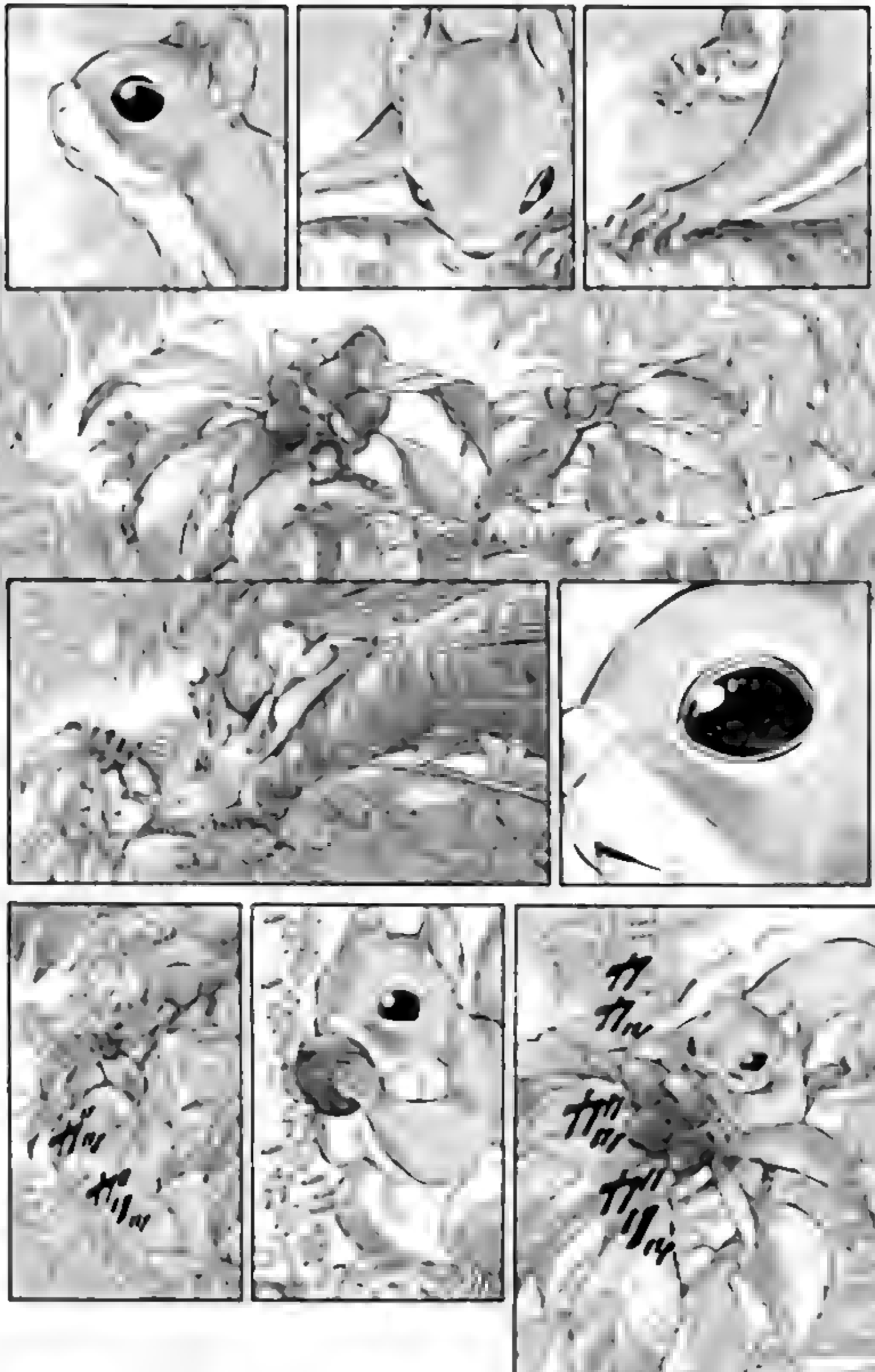


BAK (KRAK)

BAKU

BAKU

PARA

PARA

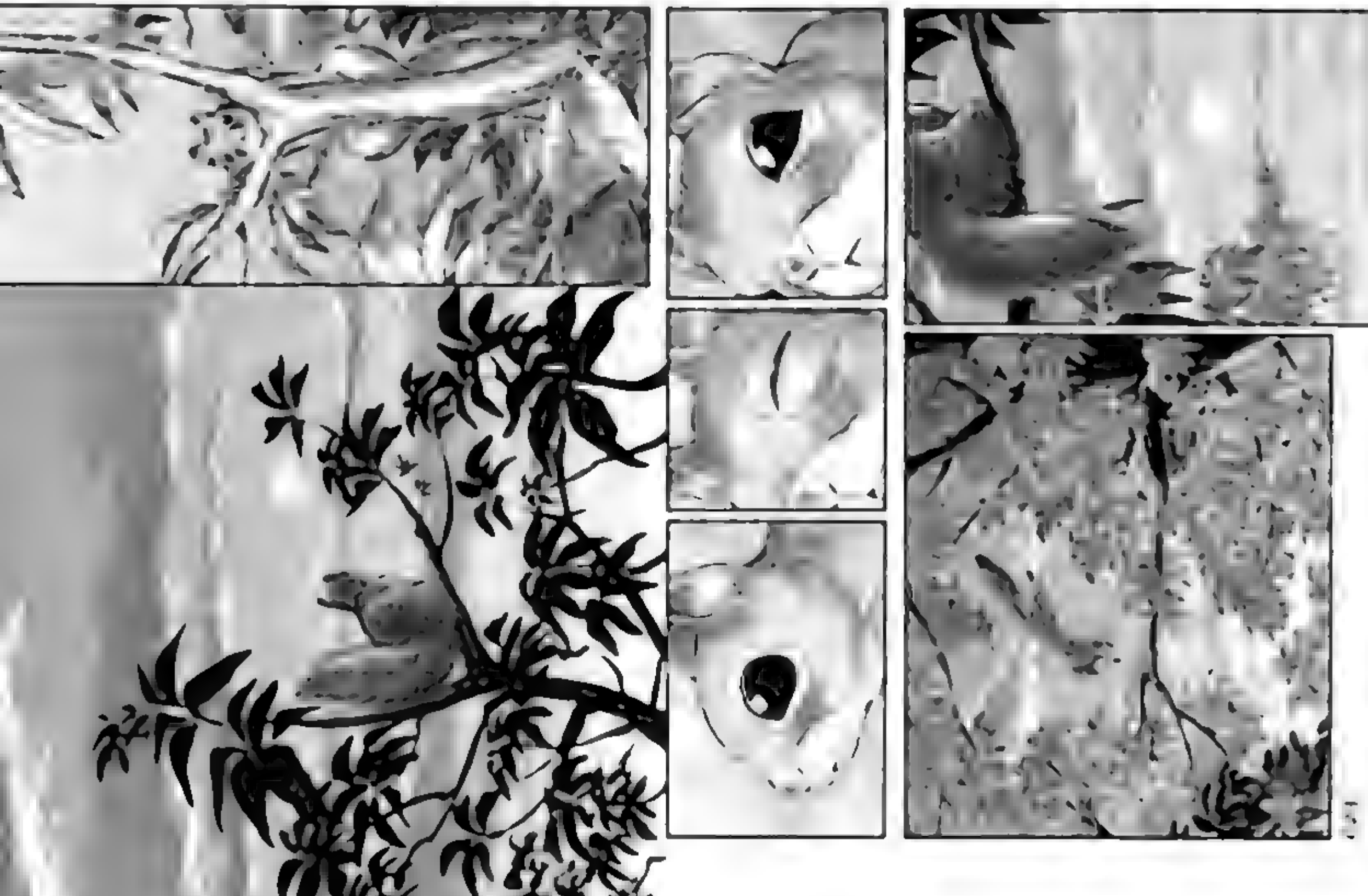
PARA

CHEE!

PUSH (SPRITE)

KA (SHRIEK)

KA



<COME ALONG, ERICH.>

<MM >

<ERICH >

<WE'VE ARRIVED ERICH >

<NN >

<I WANT YOU TO GO STRAIGHT TO BED >

<TEO >

<WE'RE HOME!>

<D'D YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME?>

<UH-HUH! A GREAT TIME!>

<I'M GLAD TO HEAR IT >

<ALL I KNOW . . .>

<...IS THAT BY THE TIME WE ARRIVED, HE WAS MISSING.>

<TEO!?>

<TEO!?>

<WAS HE IN THE WAGON?>

<TEO'S GONE!?>

<TEO!?>

<I MUST HAVE LEFT HIM THERE...>

<I LEFT HIM THERE ...!>

<TEO...>

<TEO...>

WHAT? WHAT'S GOING ON?

<I LEFT TEO IN THE WOODS !!>

<I HAVE TO LOOK FOR HIM!!>

<LET'S GO BACK!!>

<I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!!>

<I UNDER-STAND YOUR CONCERN.>

<BUT YOU MUST CALM DOWN >

<ERICH !>

<IMPOS-S BLE. IT'S TOO DARK NOW!>

<WE'LL GO BACK TOMOR-ROW >

<TEO ...>

<TEO WILL ...!>

ONO, IT HAS TO BE NOW!>

<BUT TEO >

<TEO IS A SQUIRREL, SO I'M SURE HE'LL FIND A SAFE PLACE TO HIDE FOR THE NIGHT.>

<THAT AREA IS DANGER-OUS AT NIGHT >

<WHAT GOOD WILL IT DO ANY-ONE IF YOU GET LOST OR BREAK A LEG THERE?>

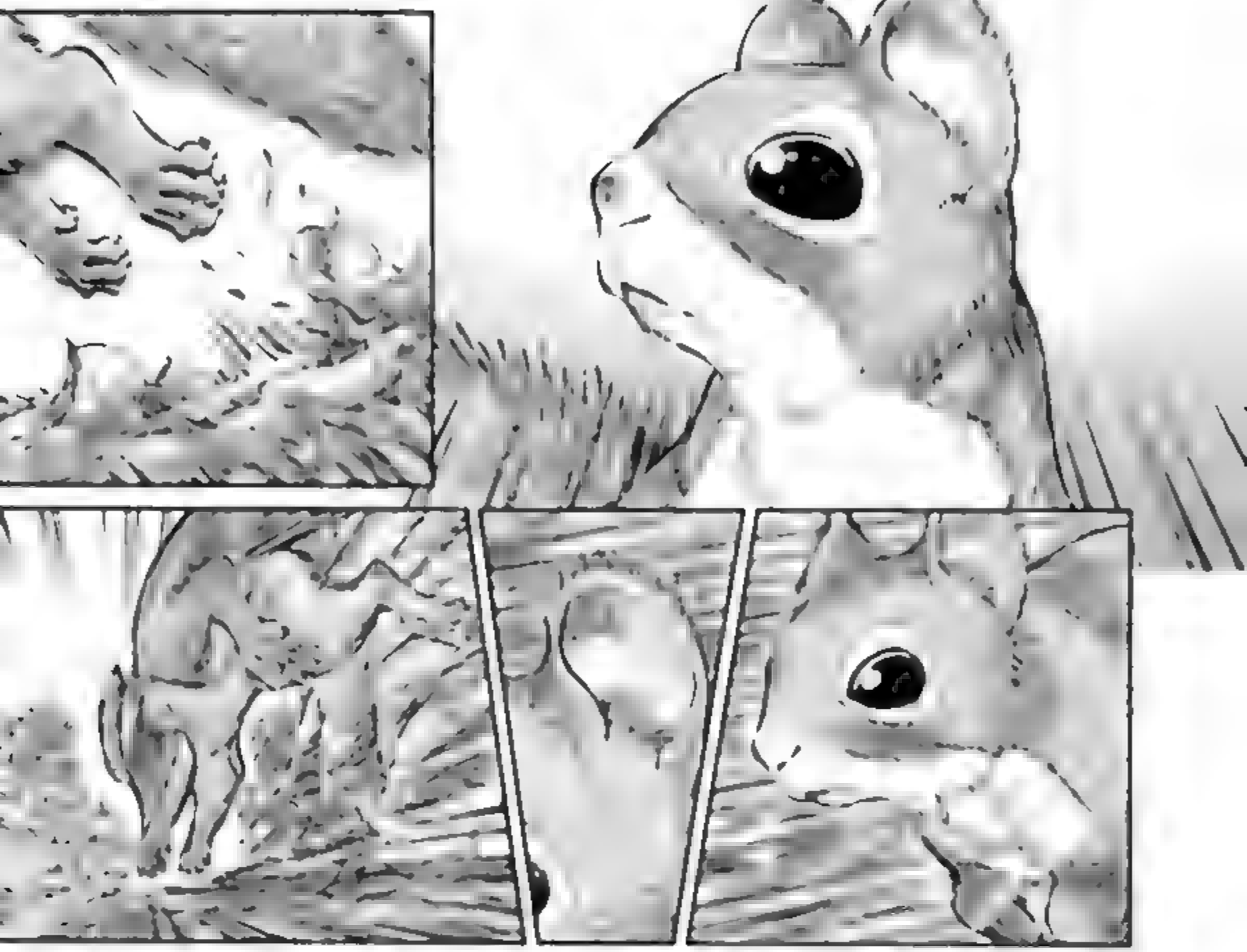
<IT WILL BE ALL R GHT >

<I'M SURE WE'LL FIND H M >

<WHEN IT GETS LIGHT, I'LL GO WITH YOU TO SEARCH >

<HOW DOES THAT SOUND ?>

¡¡



WHAT ARE THESE BAD GUYS?
I'LL EASILY CAN'T TAKE YOU
STRANGE THEY TALK ABOUT WORDS
THE TO EAT COME OUT!
カラ カラ カラ
TEO!

TEO!

<IS HE THERE!?>

<TEO?>

<DO YOU SEE HIM!?>

<TEO!!>

<COME HERE!!?>

<TEO!!>

<TEO!>

<CHI HAS BEEN FOUND>

<IT SEEMS SO>

<SO>

<WHAT IS IT?>

<NOW WE CAN GO HOME!

<GOOD FOR YOU, YOUNG MASTER.>

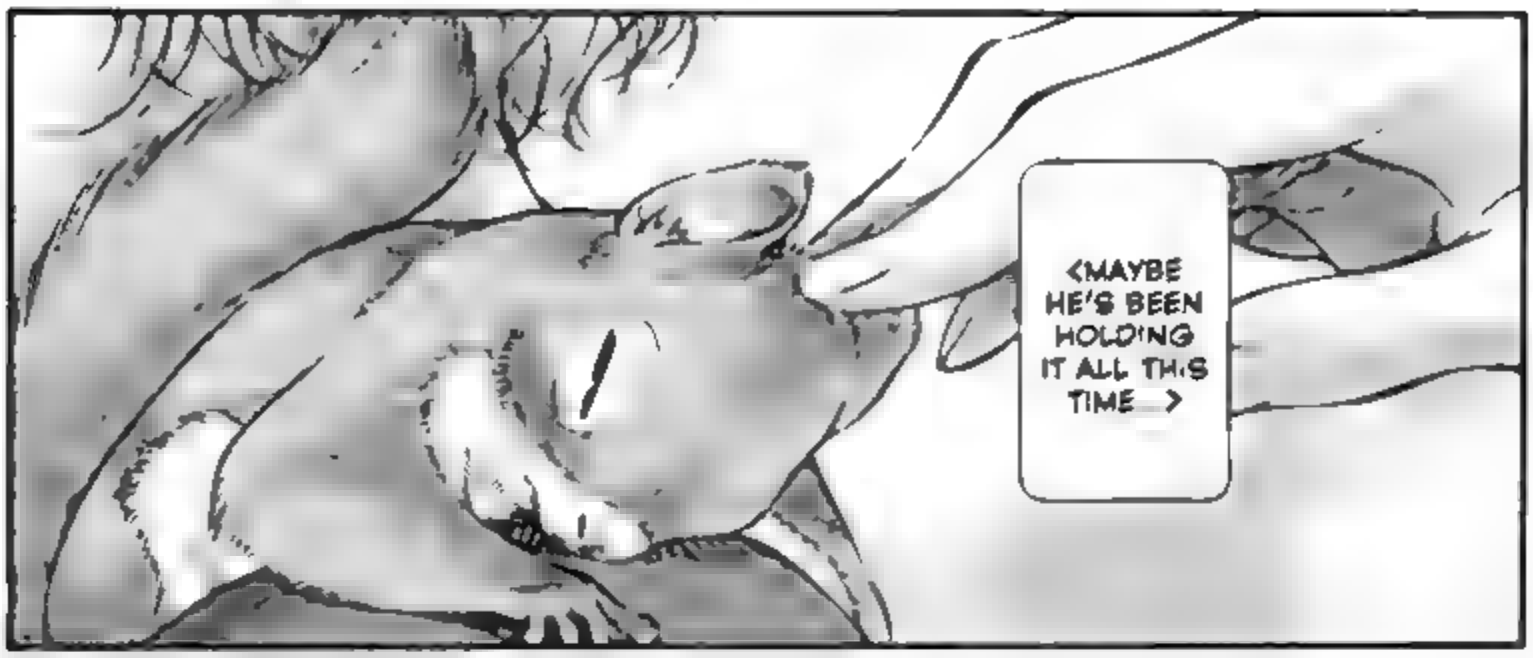
<NO, NO, TEO>

<IT MUST MEAN HE'S RE-LIEVED>

<YOU DON'T DO THAT!>

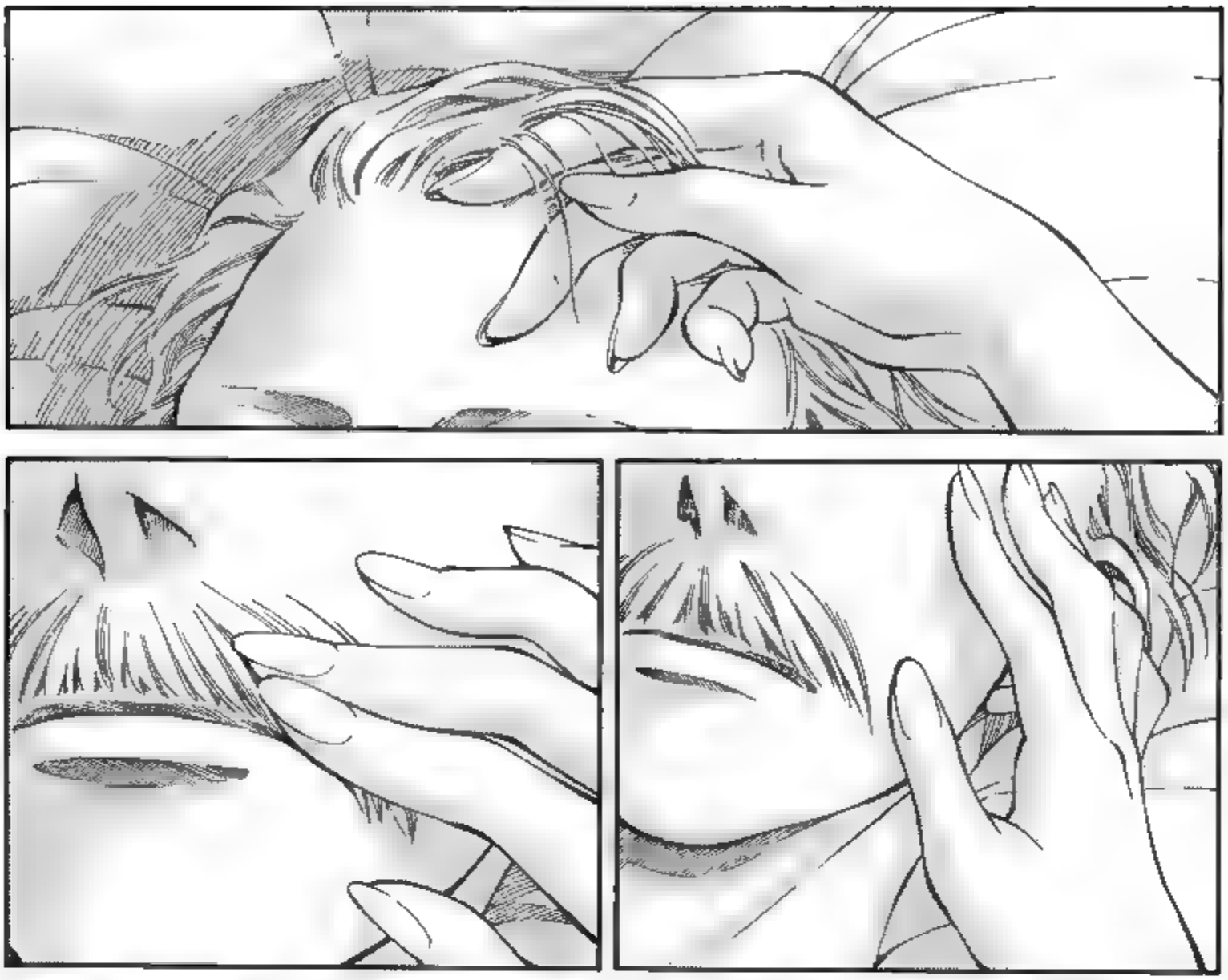
<TEO WET ON ME>

<OH DEAR>


<MAYBE HE'S BEEN HOLDING IT ALL THIS TIME...>

¿TEO?

Chapter 8:
On Wings of Song



Chapter
On Wings of Song

<GOOD MORNING, WILHELM.>

<GOOD MORNING.>

<WHAT TIME IS IT?>

<NOT TIME TO GET UP YET.>

<I JUST WOKE YOU UP BECAUSE I WAS AWAKE.>

<A DREAM?>

<WHAT ABOUT?>

<...I HAD A PECULIAR DREAM >

<HAS BRUCH COME?>

<NO.>

<THEN IT'S BEFORE NINE.>

<I..... HUH.>

<IT'S ALREADY ESCAPED ME.>

<OH.>

041

<NINE O' CLOCK.>

KON (KNOCK)

KON

KON

<COME IN.>

<IT'S A LITTLE STRONG.>

<DAR-JEEL-ING.>

<I NEED THAT IN THE MORNING TO HELP COAX MY EYES OPEN >

<IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T YOU JUST DRINK COFFEE?>

<YOU'RE A MAN OF ODD HABITS.>

<THAT'S FOR AFTER MEALS.>

<IT'S ALL RIGHT. NEXT TIME I'LL ASK THEM TO BRING A POT OF HOT WATER.>

<SHALL I HAVE THEM BRING OVER THE TRAY FROM YOUR ROOM?>

<NO.>

<ANY INTERESTING ARTICLES?>

<WHEN I SLEEP HERE, I DON'T ORDER A MORNING TRAY.>

<OH, THIS WAY SUITS ME.>

<I DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE ME PUTTING ON MAKEUP.>

<IT'S A NUISANCE HAVING SEPARATE ROOMS.>

<WHY DON'T WE START SHARING ?>

<OR DID YOU WANT TO WATCH ME DO THAT?>

<NOT PAR-TICU-LARLY.>

<SEE?>

<.....>

<WHITE HAIR>

<.....>

<.....>

<WHAT?>

<WITH THE COLOUR OF YOUR HAIR...>

<...IT HARDLY SHOWS AT ALL.>

<THAT'S ALL RIGHT>

<...THE DEVIL, YOU SAY.>

<BUT IF I MUST GET THEM, I WANT THEM TO BE PURE WHITE.>

<I DON'T LIKE GRAY.>

<NO.>

<NOT YET, AT LEAST.>

<DO YOU HAVE ANY, DORO-THEA?>

<THAT WOULD BE DISAP-POINT-ING...>

<MY GREAT-AUNT'S HAIR TURNED SNOW-WHITE.>

<WITH WHITE HAIR, YOU CAN WEAR A DRESS OF ANY COLOUR.

<OR DID YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ME BECAUSE I HAD BLACK HAIR?>

<IS THAT WHY YOU MARRIED ME, FOR MY BLACK HAIR?>

<I MARRIED YOU FOR YOUR BLACK HAIR.>

<I LIKE BLACK HAIR.>

<YOU ALWAYS HAVE.>

<KEEP IT UP WITH THE JOKES.>

<WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF I HAD AN AFFAIR?>

<... I WON'T.>

<GOOD.>

<DON'T.>

<...YOU'RE IMPOSSI-BLE.>

<IN WHAT WAY?>

<MOST OF THE TIME, I CAN'T TELL WHETHER YOU'RE JOKING OR BEING SERIOUS.>

<NOT SINCE THEN...>

<SINCE WHEN?>

<THE FIRST TIME WE MET.>

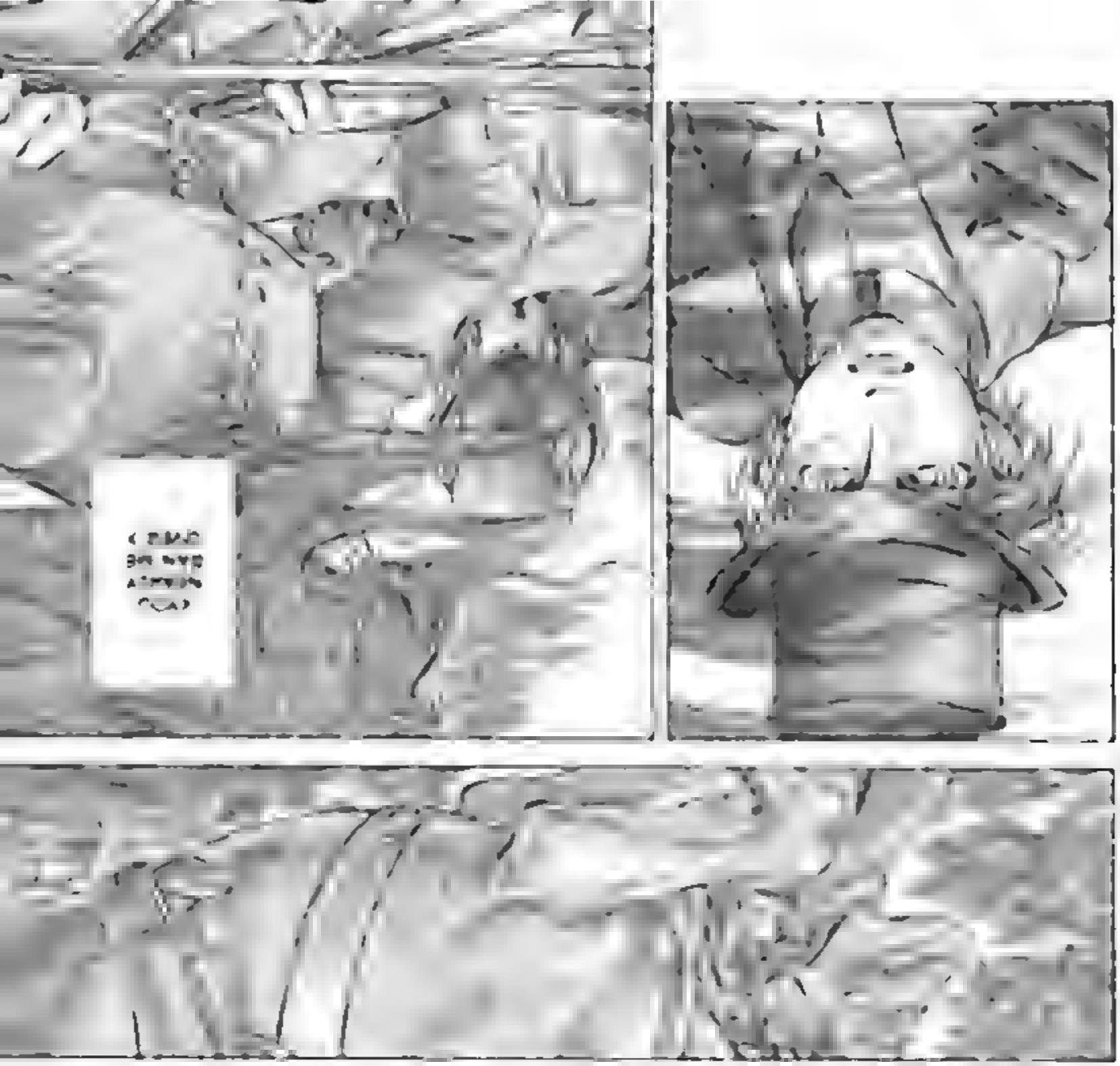
<YOU REMEMBER, DON'T YOU? AT SOME PARTY.>

〈IF A FELLOW CHANCED TO ABSENTMINDEDLY WANDER INTO YOUR PATH, I EXPECT HE WOULD BE KICKED OUT OF THE WAY.〉

〈YOU LOOKED ME RIGHT IN THE EYE AND SAID...〉

〈NO...〉
〈WE'D MET ONCE BEFORE THAT.〉

〈I THOUGHT, "WHAT KIND OF A THING IS THAT TO SAY THE FIRST TIME YOU MEET SOMEONE?"〉



<TO REDUCE STRESS >

<YOU OFTEN RODE A HORSE BACK THEN >

<THERE WERE MANY THINGS I DIDN'T CARE FOR AT THE TIME >

<YOU'VE NEVER MENTIONED THAT ENCOUNTER BEFORE >

<I KNEW I'D SEEN YOUR FACE SOMEWHERE BEFORE.>

< BECAUSE YOU HAD SUCH A COMPOSED EXPRES-SION >

<AT FIRST, I COULDN'T PLACE YOU...>

<HENCE THE STARING.>

<WHY NOT?>

<AN-OTHER JEST?>

<YOU WERE MORE FASCINATING ON THE PATH THAN AT THE PARTY.>

<WELL, I COULDN'T VERY WELL HAVE RIDDEN A HORSE TO A SOIREE, COULD I?>

<WAS IT THE HAIR?>

<IT WAS THE HAIR.>

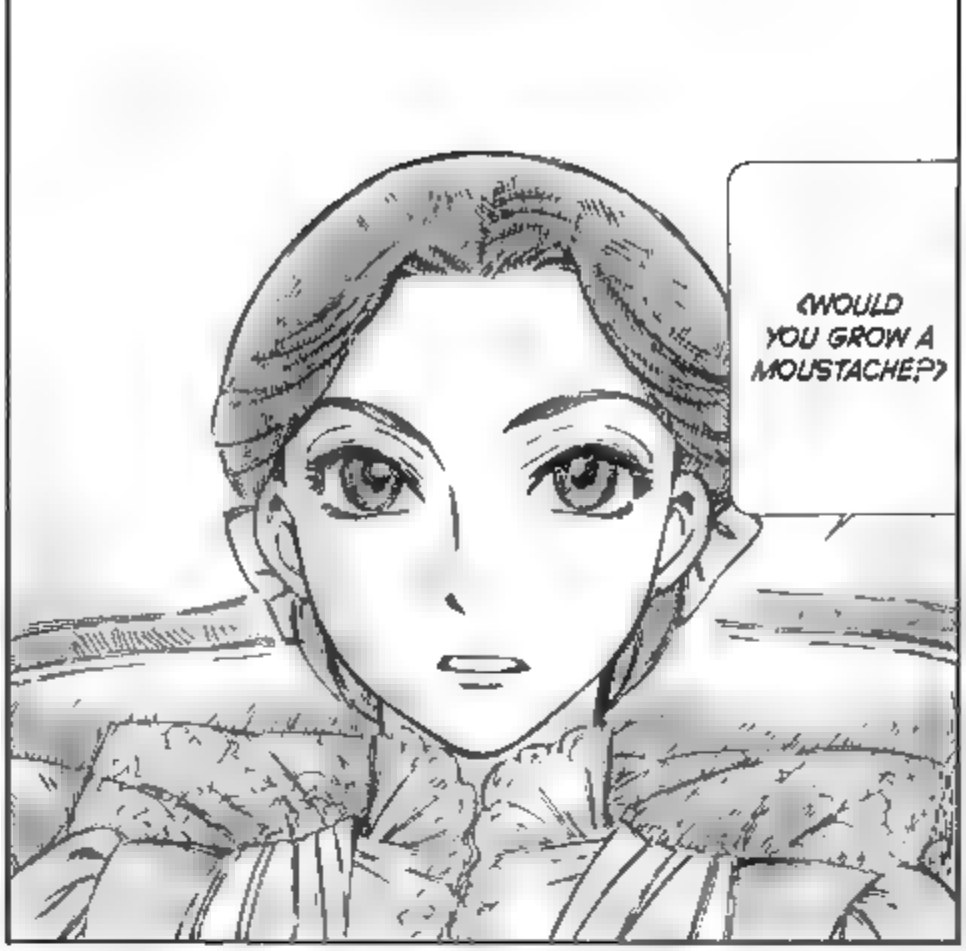
<RE-MEMBER WHEN I CAME TO ASK FOR YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE ?>

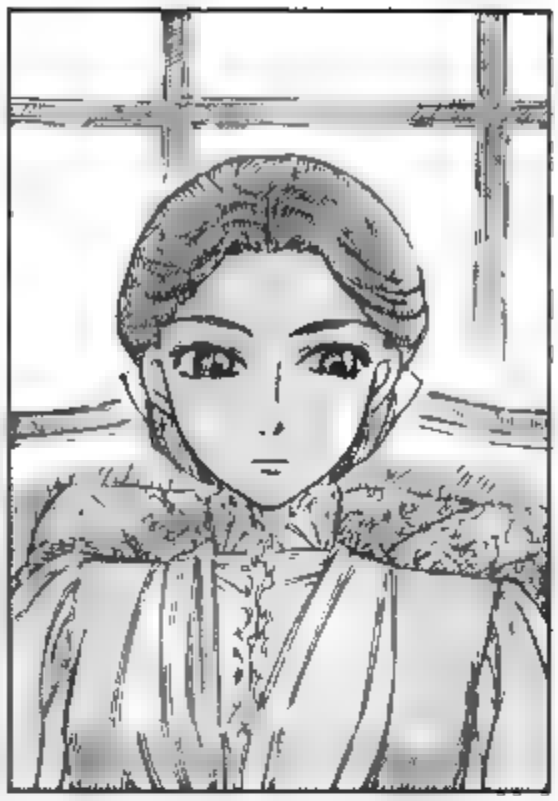
<I ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYTHING I COULD DO FOR YOU >

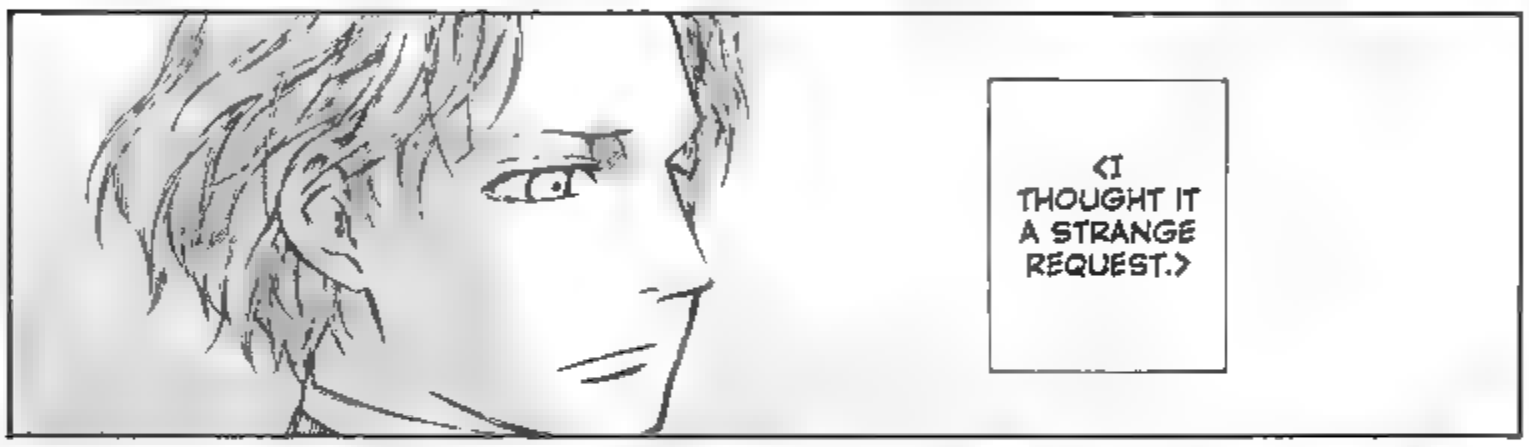
<I DO?>

<YOU KNOW, ONCE IN A WHILE, YOU SAY THINGS THAT DON'T MAKE SENSE >

<WHEN ?>


<WOULD YOU GROW A MOUSTACHE?>




<I THOUGHT IT A STRANGE REQUEST.>

<...AND IF YOU HAD AN AFFINITY FOR THEM, WELL...>
<CERTAINLY, I WAS OF AN AGE WHERE A MOUSTACHE WOULDN'T LOOK OUT OF PLACE...>

<...I DON'T PARTICULARLY CARE ABOUT FACIAL HAIR ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.>

<THAT WAS...>

<I THOUGHT HAVING A MOUSTACHE MIGHT MAKE YOU LOOK KINDER >

<YOU MAY NOT REALISE THIS, DARLING...>

<...BUT YOU HAVE A SCARY FACE.>

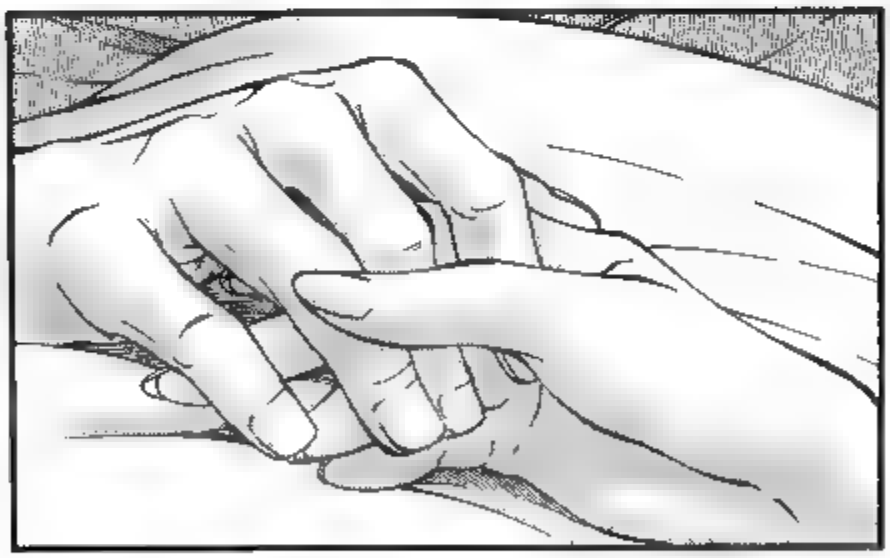
<NOT NOW?>

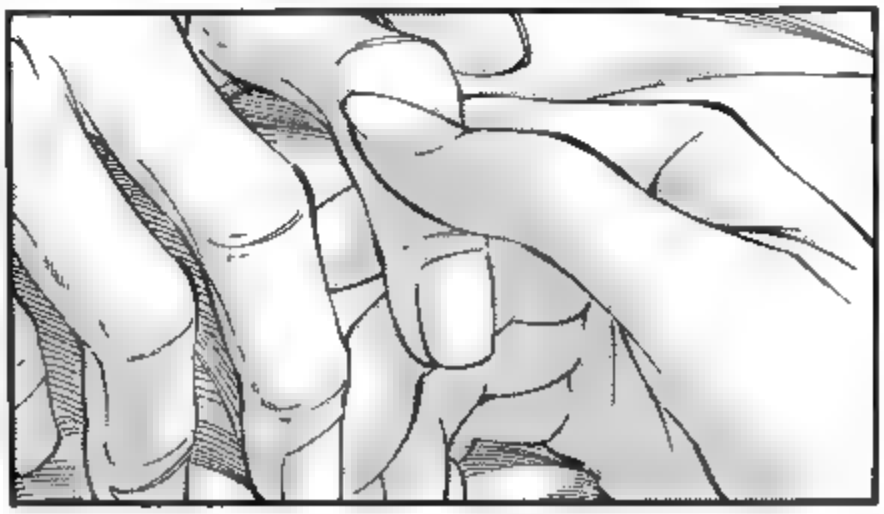
<OF COURSE NOT.>

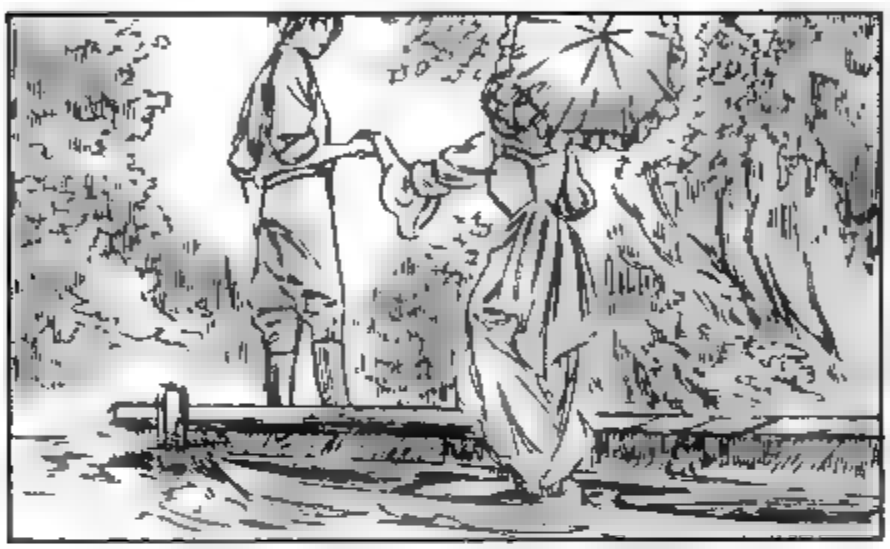
<A SCARY FACE?>

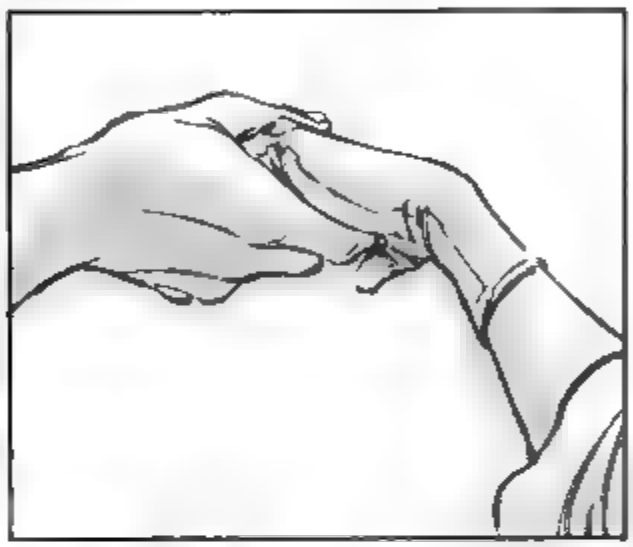
<BACK THEN.>

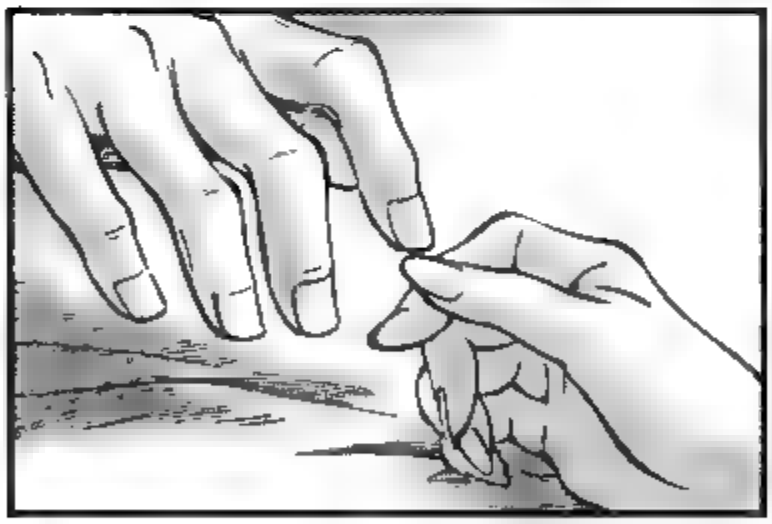
<I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WOULD ACTUALLY GROW ONE FOR ME.>

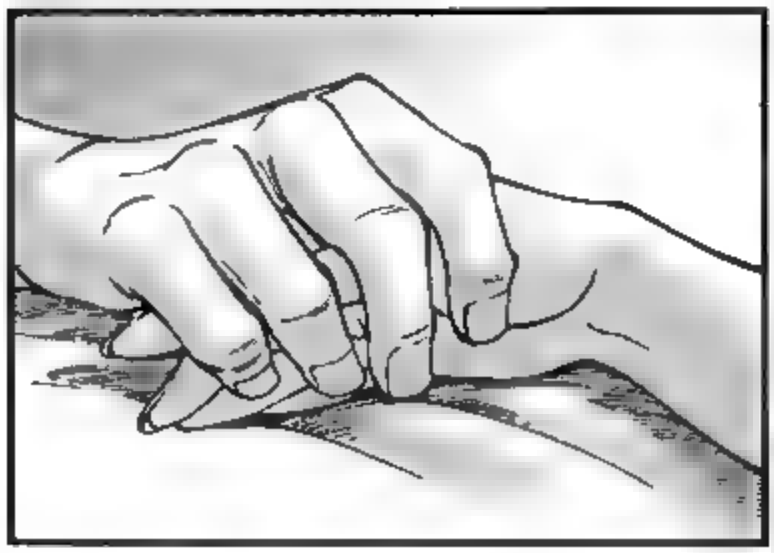


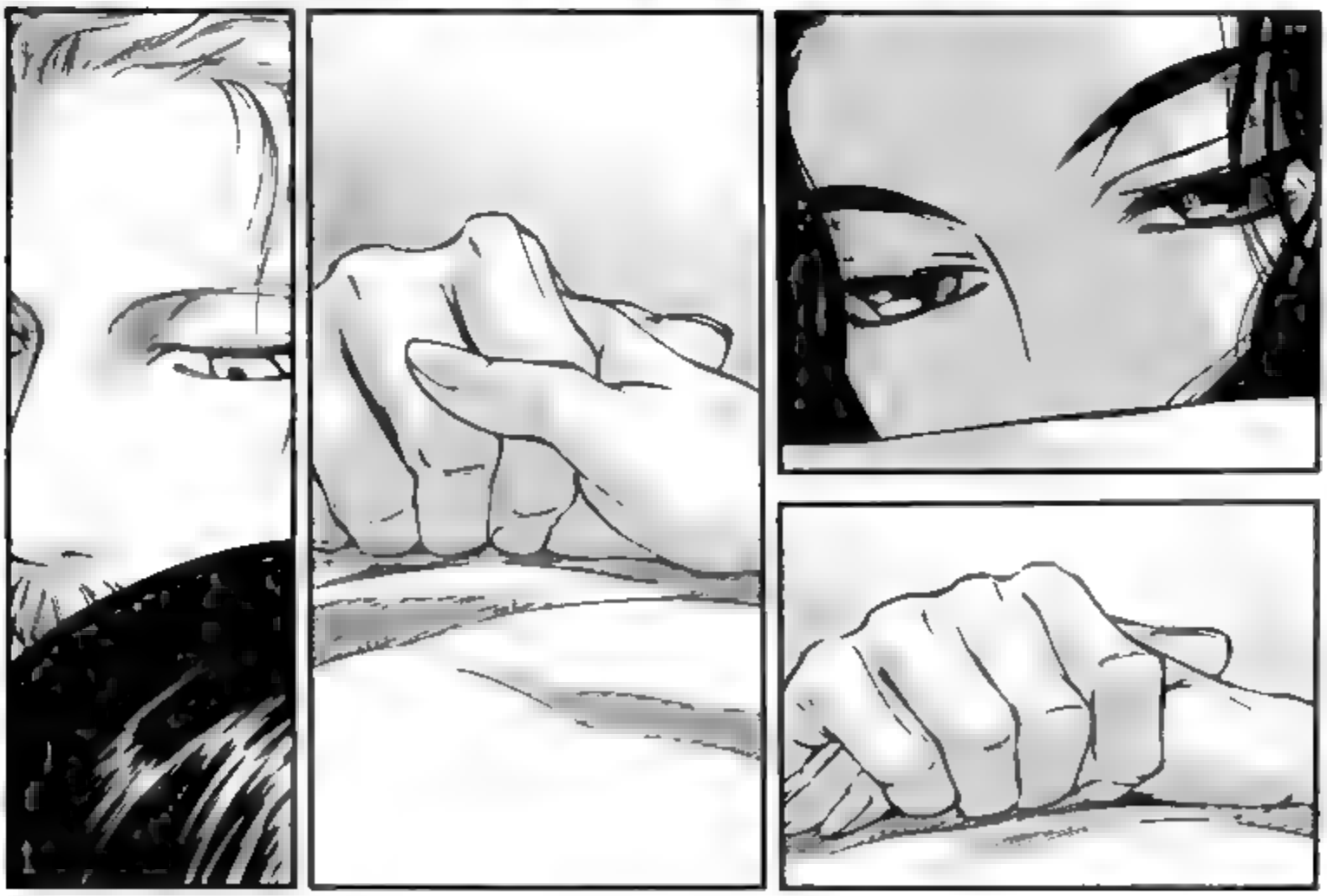








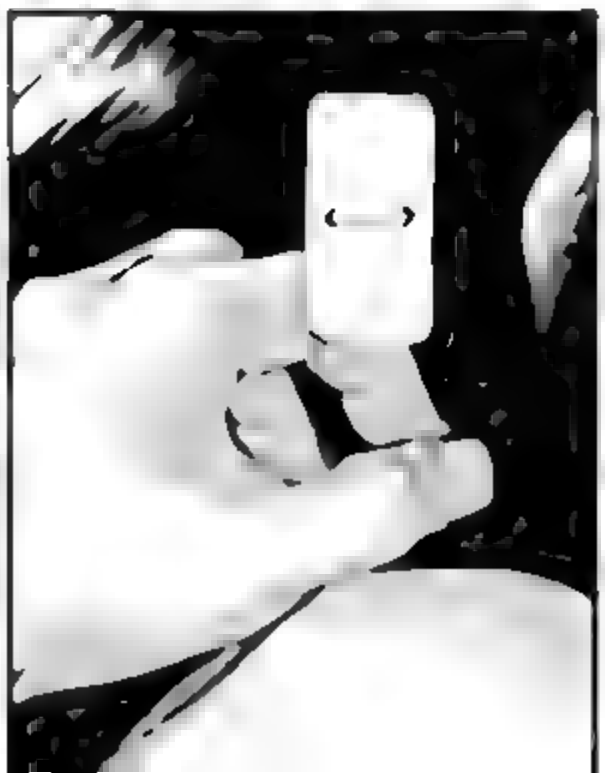




HOW MANY YEARS HAVE WE BEEN MARRIED?

SAY

REALLY?
AND A HALF


...

<CU-RIOUS, HOW TIME FLIES.>

<YOU ARE A WONDERFUL MAN, AFTER ALL.>

<A SONG?>

<YES, SING ME A SONG.>

<SING WHAT?>

<ANY-THING >

<DAR-LING...>

<SING ME SOME-THING.>

< ... .>

Auf Flügeln des Gesanges...
On wings of song...

Herzliebchen...
My darling...

...trag ich dich fort...
...I'll carry you away...

Fort...
Far away...

...nach den Fluren des Ganges...
...to the fields of the Ganges...

Dort weiss ich...
Where I know...

...den Schönsten Ort...
...the most beautiful place...

Dort liegt ein rotblühender Garten...
There lies a garden of crimson blooms...

Im stillen Mondenschein...
In the still moonlight...

Die Lotosblumen...
Where the lotus flowers...

...erwarten...
...await you...

Ihr trautes Schwesterlein.
Their beloved sister.

Die Veilchen kichern...
The violets chuckle...

...und kosen...
...and draw close...

Und schaun nach...
And gaze upon...

...den Sternen empor...
...the distant stars...

Heimlich erzählen die Rosen...
As the roses surreptitiously whisper...

...sich duftende Märchen...
...their fragrant fairy tales...

...ins Ohr.
...in our ears.

...wir niedersinken...
...we will lie down...
Unter dem Palmenbaum...
Under the palm tree...

Dort wollen wir—
There we will—

<I LOVE THIS SONG.>

<GO ON.>

——.....

Und Liebe und—
And drink of love and—

<I CAN'T SING.>

<?>

<WAIT.>

<IT'S TOO BRIGHT IN HERE.>

<WILHELM ...?>

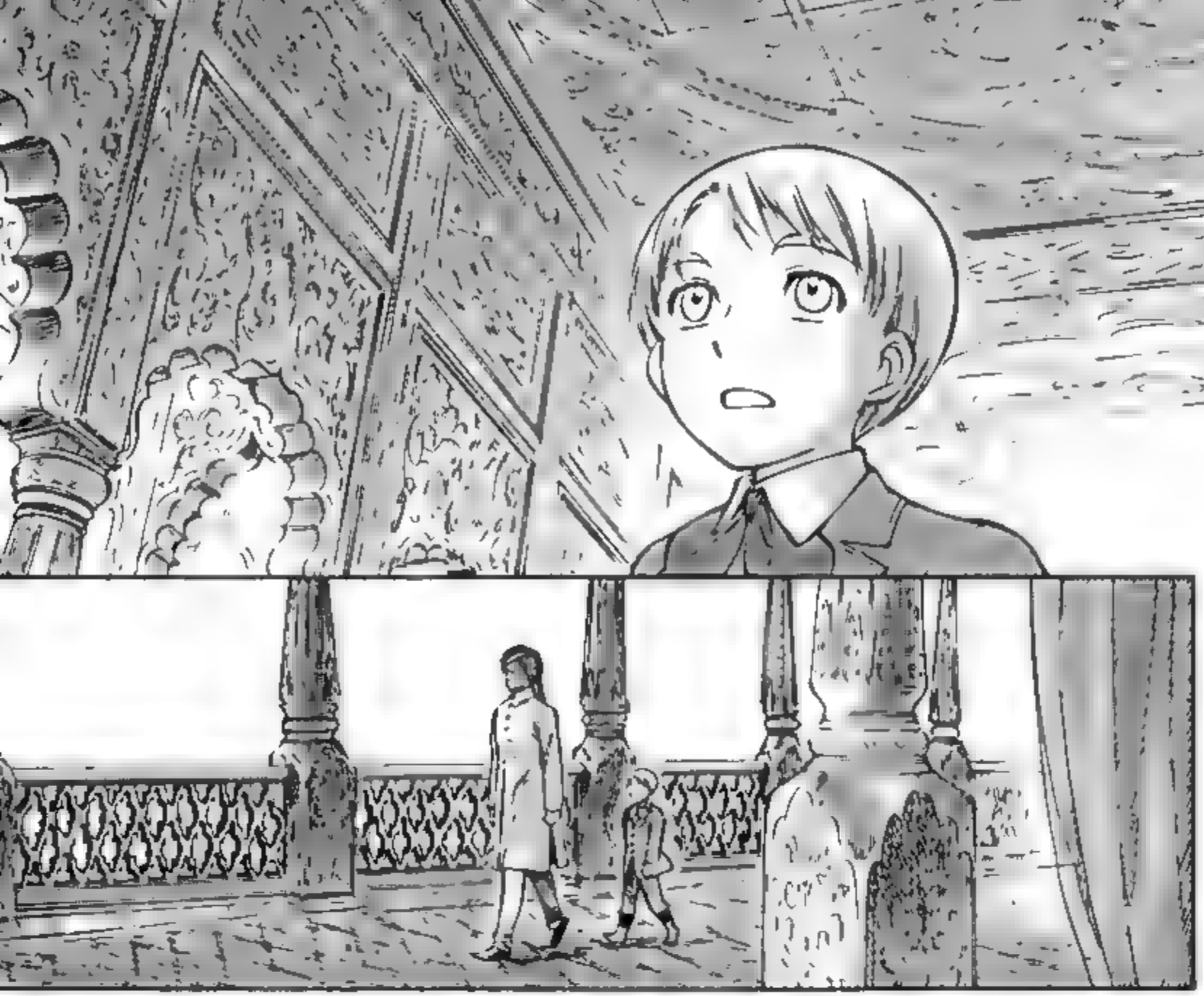
<MM?>

<I LOVE YOU.>

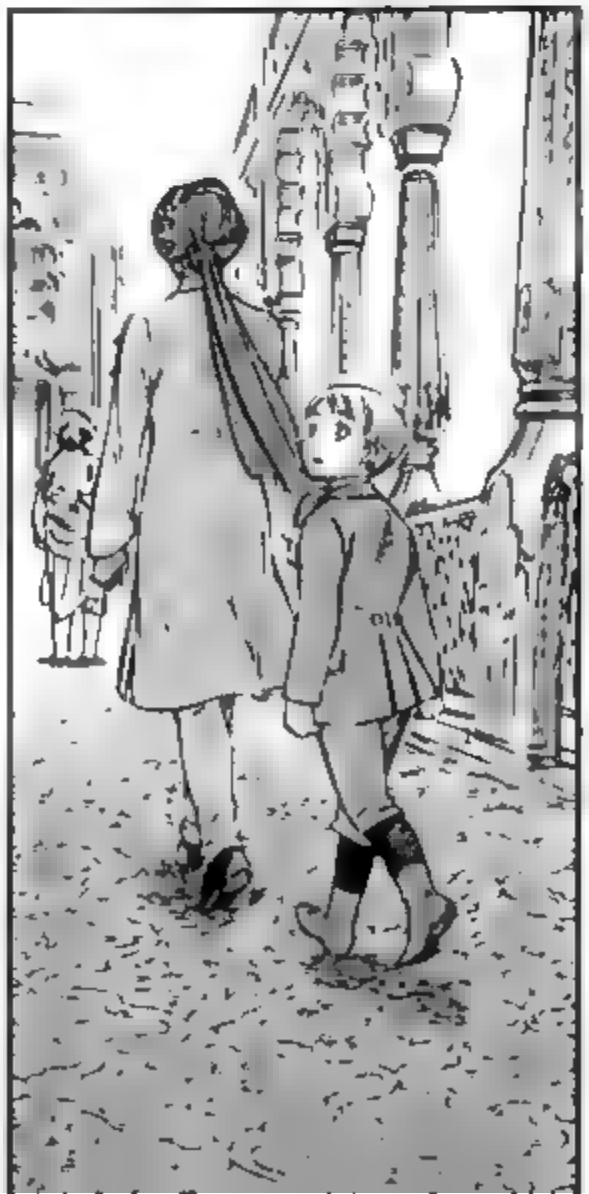
Chapter 9:
Friendship

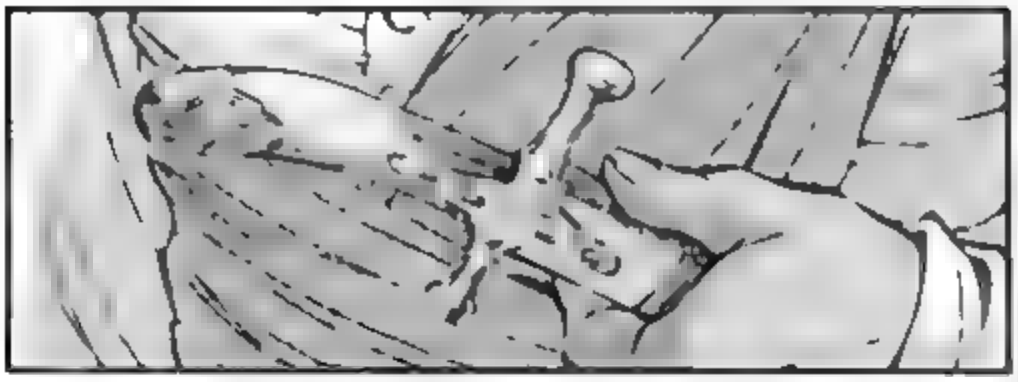
"SO THIS IS WHAT INDIA IS LIKE," I THOUGHT

Chapter 9:
Friendship



WAIT HERE A MOMENT.



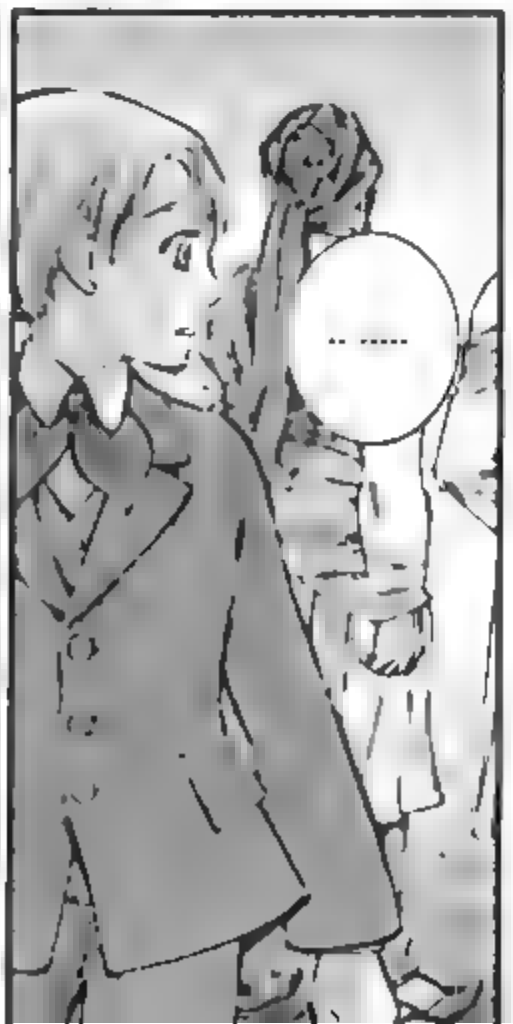


THEY ARE BODY-GUARDS.
DO NOT WORRY

THIS WAY, PLEASE

THEIR DUTY IS TO PROTECT THE PRINCES.

BODY-GUARDS ?


.. ..

AND THIS IS MASTER WILLIAM JONES.

I PRESENT THE SECOND PRINCE IN LINE TO THE THRONE—

HIS HIGHNESS HAKIM ATAWAL.

I UNDERSTAND HIS MAJESTY'S SECOND-OLDEST SON IS ABOUT WILLIAM'S AGE.

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE WILLIAM ALONG?

LUCKY! WHY DOES ONLY WILLIAM GET TO GO?

HIS MAJESTY WISHES TO ACQUAINT HIS SON WITH ENGLAND WHILE HE'S STILL YOUNG.

AND IT WILL BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR WILLIAM TO LEARN ABOUT INDIA AS WELL.

BUT THIS TIME, YOU AND I WILL WATCH THE HOUSE.

PATIENCE, GRACE. WHEN YOU'RE A LITTLE BIGGER YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO TOO.

FATHER...

I'M GOING TO GIVE IT TO THE PRINCE.

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO BRING HIM FOR A PRESENT...

CAN I BRING THIS TOO?

LIMIT YOUR LUGGAGE TO THE NECESSITIES.

.....

TOLD BY WHOM?

BY STEVENS.

...BUT I WAS TOLD IT MIGHT BE NICE TO PICK SOMETHING WE CAN PLAY TOGETHER.

I DO HOPE WE CAN BECOME FRIENDS...

FINE.

THANK YOU!

THOUGH, I CAN'T PROMISE THE CHILD WILL BE ABLE TO PLAY.

FRIENDS ...

IT...

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

HE SPOKE ...

OH.

THE PRINCE ASKED ME WHAT YOU SAID.

WHA ...!?

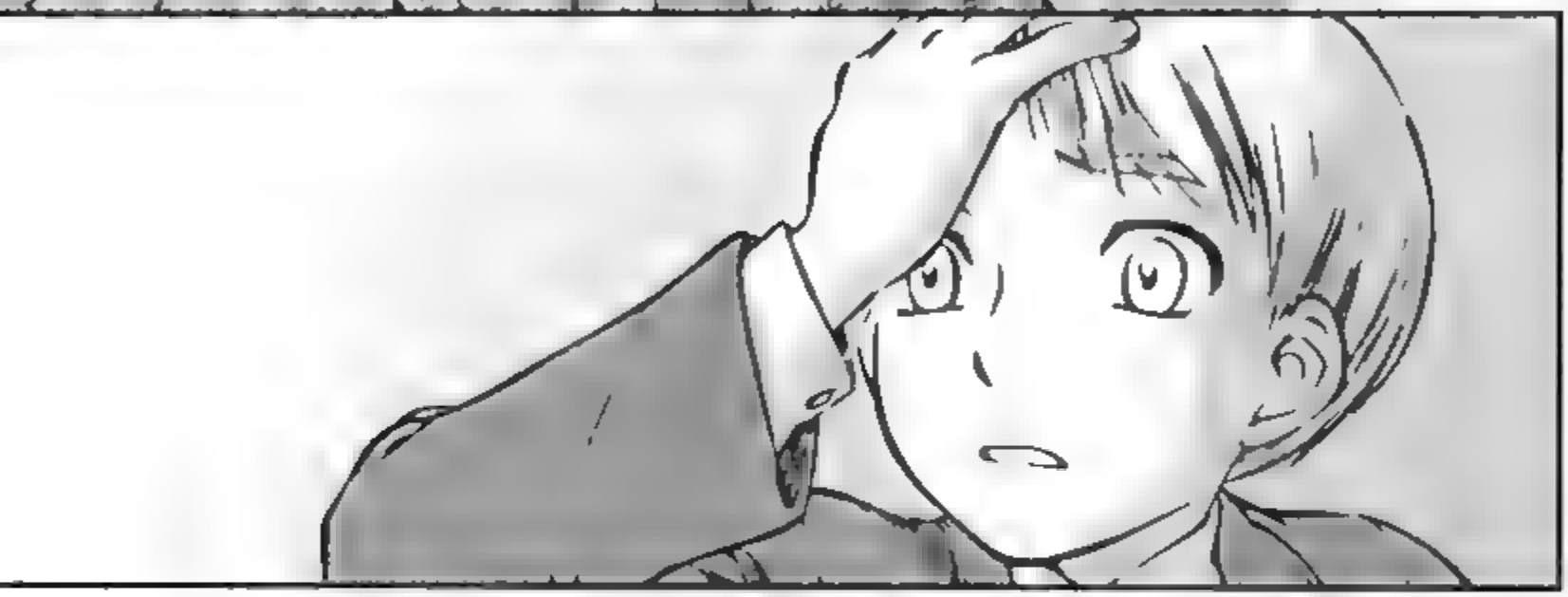
?

AM I REALLY SO UNUSUAL ...?

.....

WHAT WAS THAT FOR...!?

ACK!



HE SAYS YOU ARE AS WHITE AS AN ELEPHANT'S TUSK.
IT IS A GREAT COMPLI-MENT.

OUR LAST SHIP-MENT...

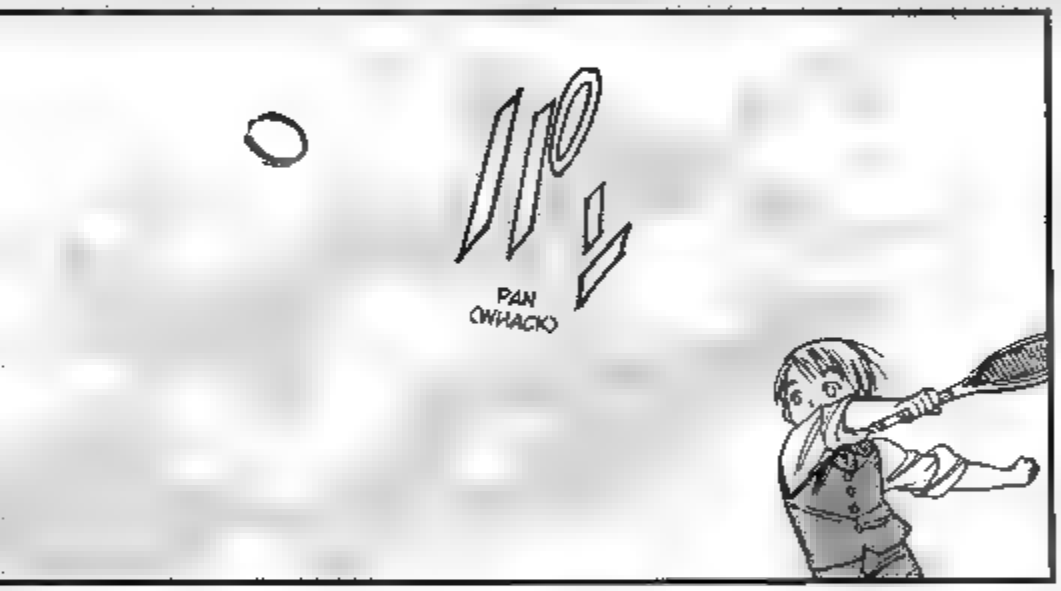
YOUR FABRICS ARE IMMENSELY POPULAR IN ENGLAND AS WELL.

THE GAME IS CALLED "TENNIS"...

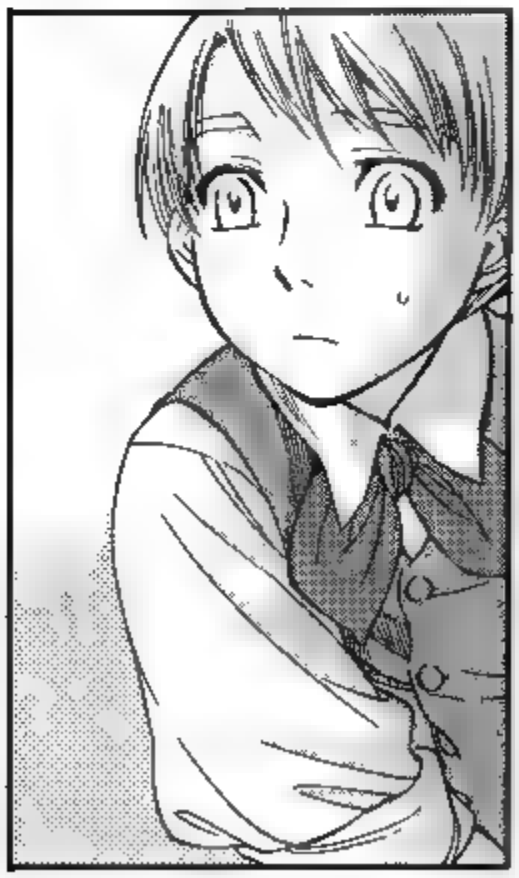
HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED...

NO.

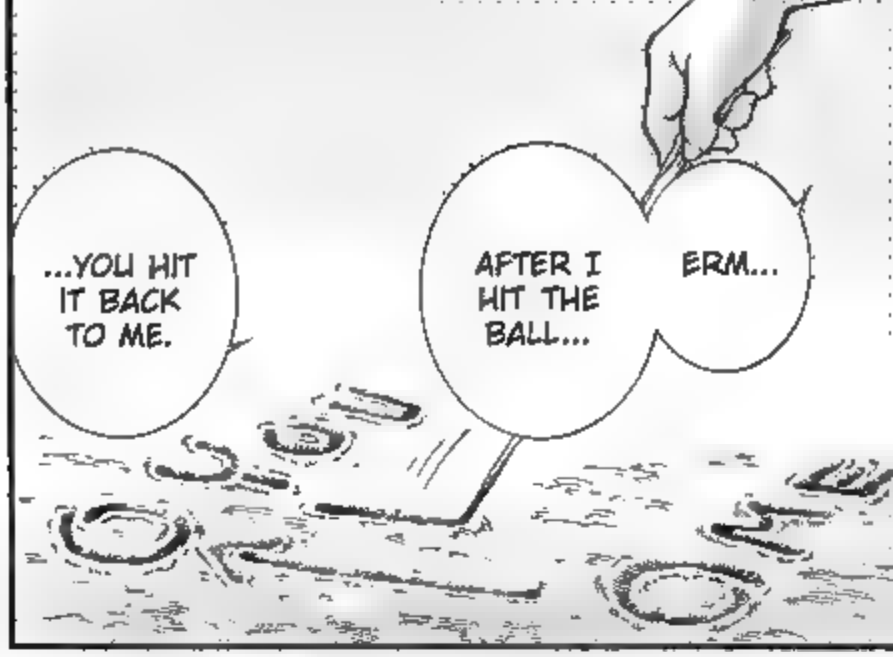
YOU HAVEN'T.


PAN
CWHACK

I'M GOING TO HIT THE BALL NOW.
READY?

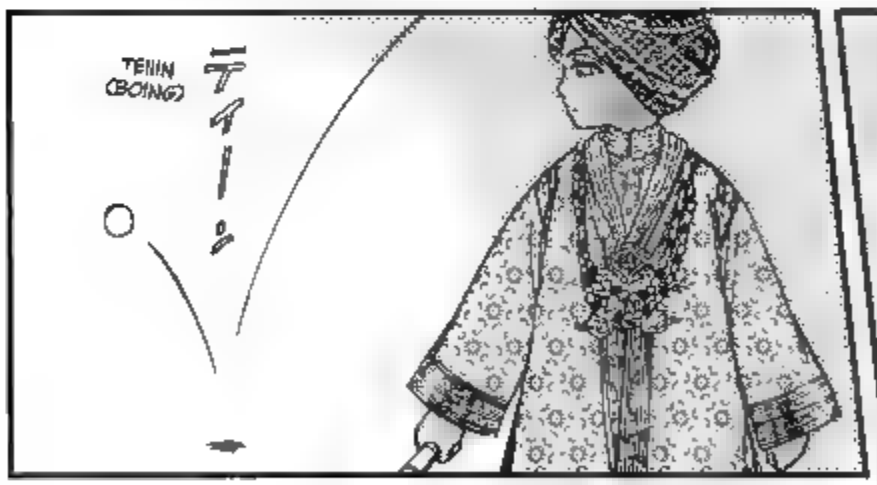


TEEEN (BOING)
TEN
TEN


...YOU HIT IT BACK TO ME.
AFTER I HIT THE BALL...
ERM...

DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
AND WE KEEP KNOCKING IT BACK AND FORTH. THAT'S THE GAME...

READY?
ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRY IT AGAIN.


TEIIN (BOING)

.....

PAN (WHACK)
110!

?

HE SAYS...

UM...

...HE IS NOT GOING TO HIT IT.

...IF THE BALL DOES NOT COME TO HIM...

POOON (THWACK)

UH...

ALL RIGHT, THEN...

PAN (WHACK)

Lip

WHOA!

!?

GASHAN (CRASH)

WIL-
LIAM!

AH...

READY?

KASHA (SMASH)

KAAAN (CLANGG)

GACHAN (CRASH)

KARAN

THAT'S IT!

JUST LIKE THAT!!

AH!!

PAN (WHACK)

PAN

YES, RIGHT AT ME!

WELL DONE!

...ALREADY HE CAN RETURN IT, AND WITH GOOD AIM!

EVEN THOUGH TODAY WAS HIS FIRST TIME...

HE'S BRILLIANT AT IT!

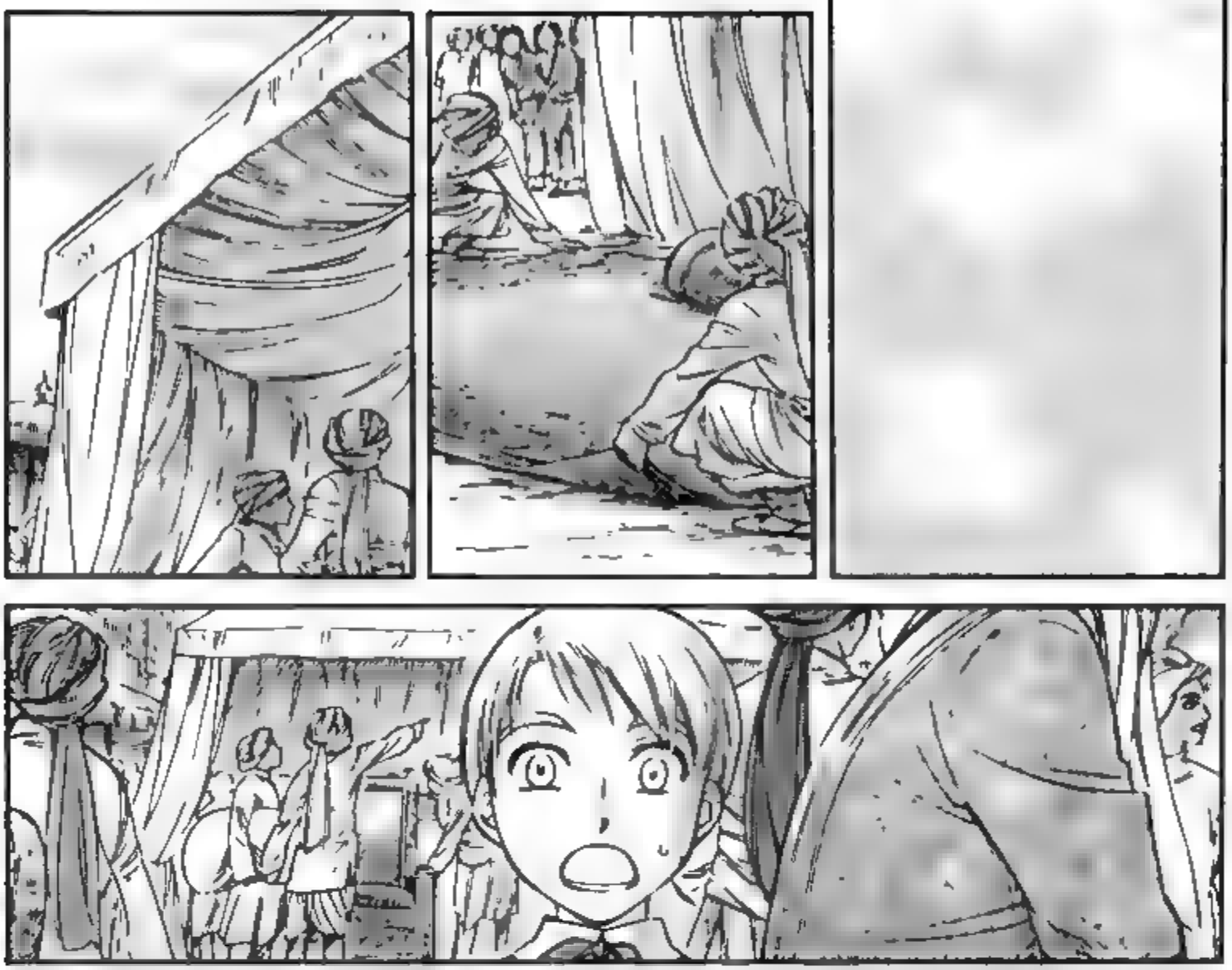
I SEE...

HE WANTS TO PLAY AGAIN TOMOR-ROW!

HIS MAJESTY EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO SPECTATE THE NEXT TIME YOU PLAYED.

...GREAT!

PERHAPS I'LL COME WATCH YOU TOMORROW AS WELL.



I WAS UP ALL NIGHT RESEARCHING

.....

AFTER YOU FINISHED YESTERDAY, HIS HIGHNESS ASKED ME A GREAT MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT TENNIS...

WIL-LIAM!

YES.

YOU HAD A COURT BUILT TOO.

WOW!

TENNIS CLOTHES ...

BUT I THINK IT MAY BE A BIT TOO BIG...

.....

THAT SEEMS ABOUT RIGHT...

YES...

KAN (CLANG)

KAN

KAN

.....

...ALL RIGHT.

I'M GOING TO SERVE.

ARE THESE MATCHES HELD OFTEN IN ENGLAND?

IS...

...WHAT HIS MAJESTY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

...CRICKET IS PLAYED WITH TWO TEAMS.

IT RESEMBLES CRICKET IN SOME ASPECTS. HOW DOES IT DIFFER?

YES, I SUPPOSE SO.

I WOULD SAY IT'S A FAIRLY POPULAR ACTIVITY.

TENNIS IS A SPORT FOR JUST TWO OR FOUR PLAYERS.

USUALLY THESE ARE CLOSE FRIENDS WHO PLAY FOR PLEASURE.

OH!
AH!
MANY ENGLISHMEN HAVE COME TO VISIT, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE SEEN THIS SPORT.
NO FOREIGN NATION HAS EVER GOVERNED INDIA FOR LONG.
.....

EVEN-TUALLY, YOU WILL LEAVE.

YOUR COUNTRY IS, AS IT WERE, A TRAVELER PASSING THROUGH.

BUT AFTER YOUR SOJOURN IS OVER...

...HOW WILL YOU SEE US?

AS FRIENDS?

OR...

WHAT'S WRONG?

.....

I LOST.

FINISHED ALREADY?

HAKIM!

LET'S PLAY AGAIN!

EVEN THOUGH IT WAS HIS FIRST MATCH...

BESIDES, THAT FIRST ONE WAS ONLY PRACTICE!

I AM NOT A SORE LOSER!

IN TENNIS, YOU PLAY SEVERAL GAMES IN A ROW, NOT JUST ONE!

.....
IT APPEARS AN INTER-PRETER IS NO LONGER NEEDED.

I WON'T LOSE THIS NEXT ONE!

PAN (THWAP)

AH!!

DRAT!!

IN!!

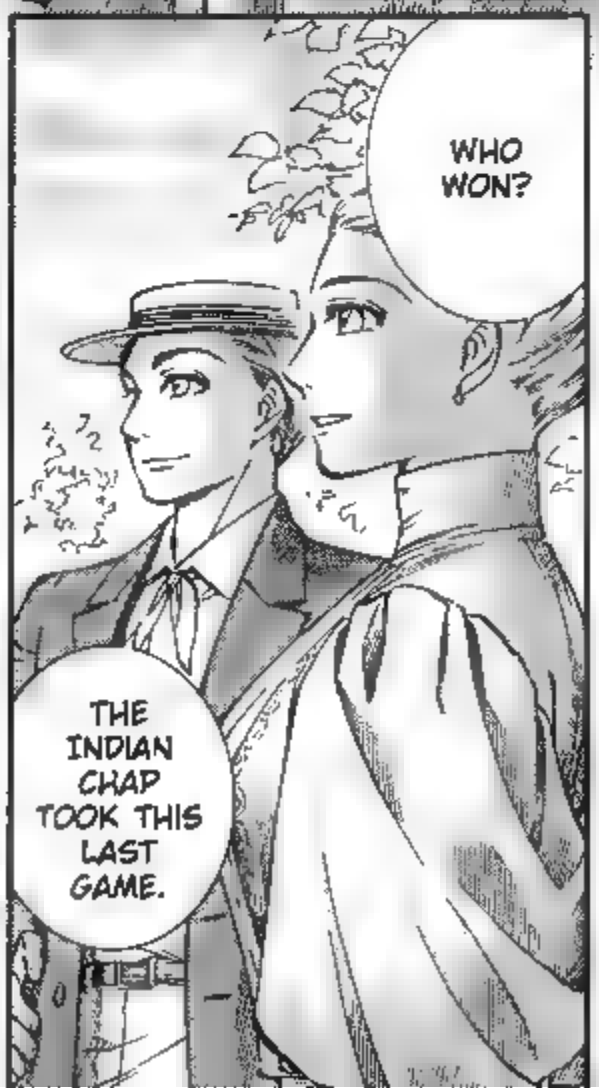
I WON, WIL-LIAM!!

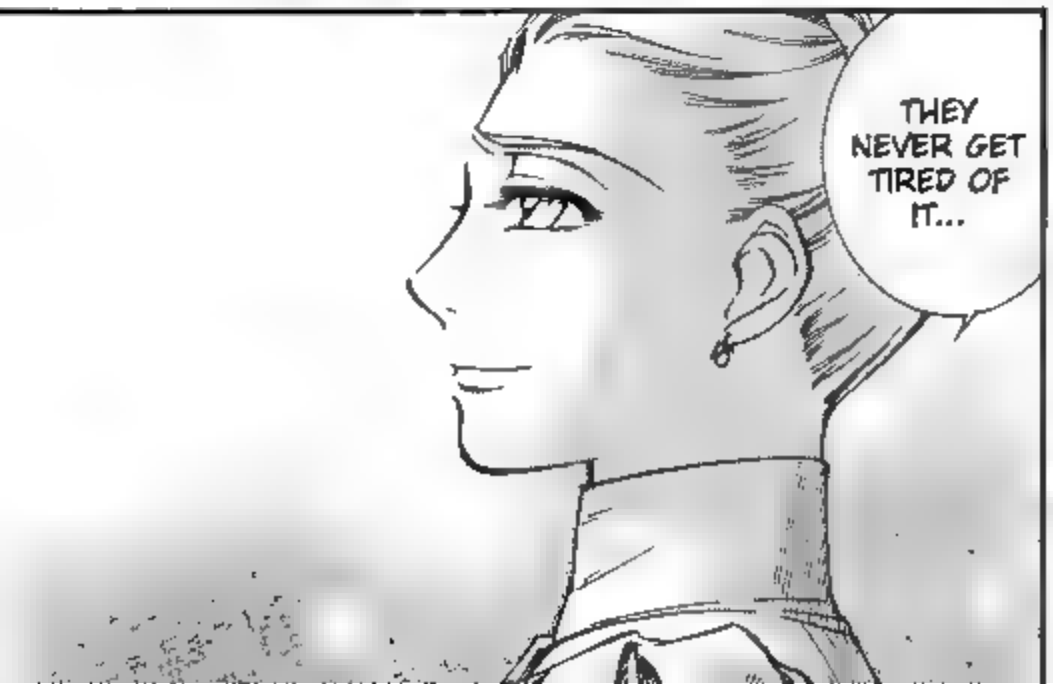
I LOST!

OH, GRACE.
HELLO, ROBERT.

THOSE TWO ARE STILL PLAYING, I SEE.

AND IN TOTAL?
TIED.


WHO WON?
THE INDIAN CHAP TOOK THIS LAST GAME.


THEY NEVER GET TIRED OF IT...

ALL RIGHT, ONE MORE GAME!!

THIS WILL SETTLE IT!!

THEY BOTH PLAY AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL...

...AND THEY HAVE SIMILAR TEMPERA-MENTS.

SO THAT'S WHY THEY EACH WIN AS MUCH AS THEY LOSE...

LAST GAME...

ONE MORE?

LAST GAME!

WHOSE SERVICE?

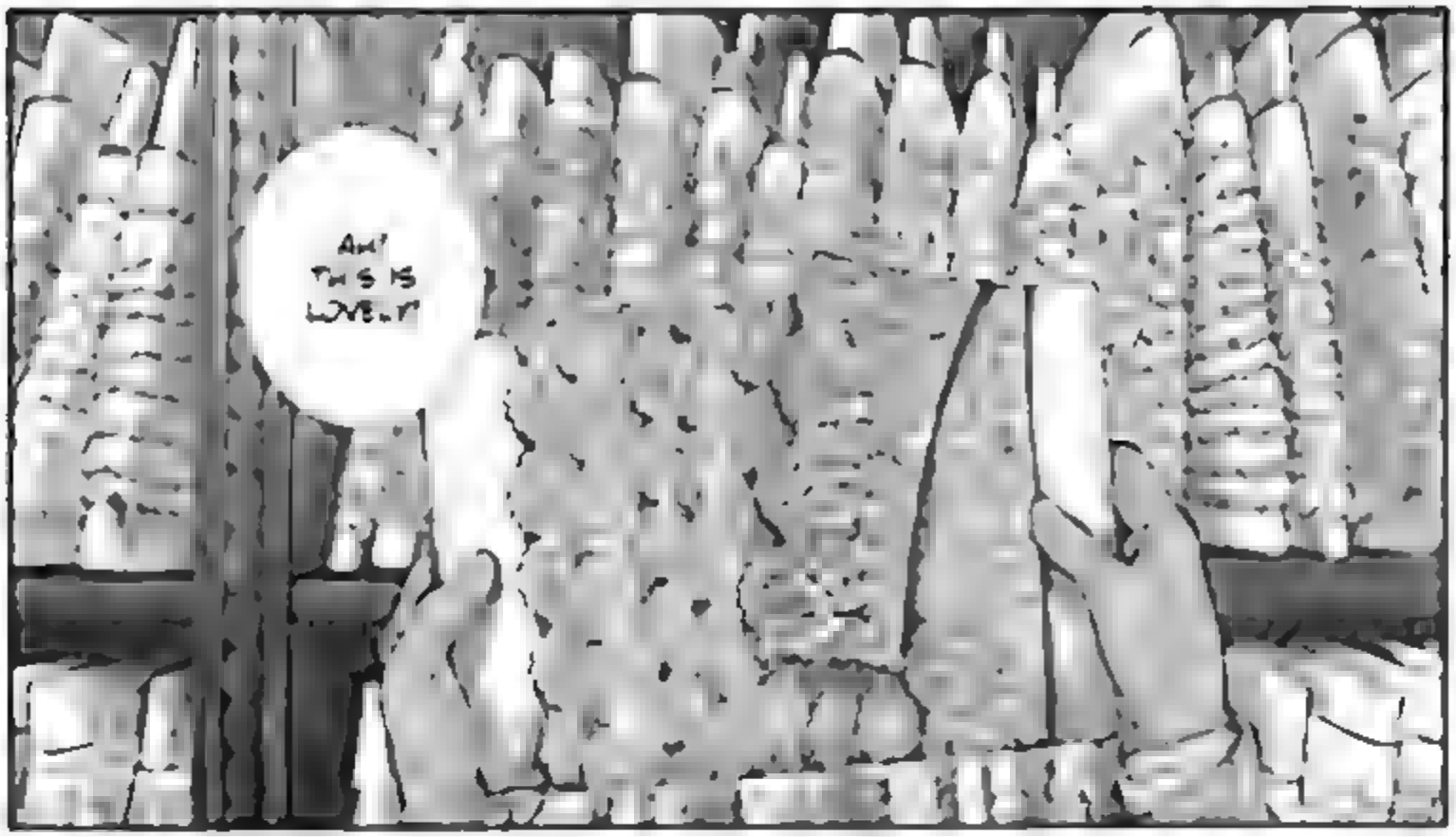
WHOEVER HAS THE BALL CAN JUST HIT IT...

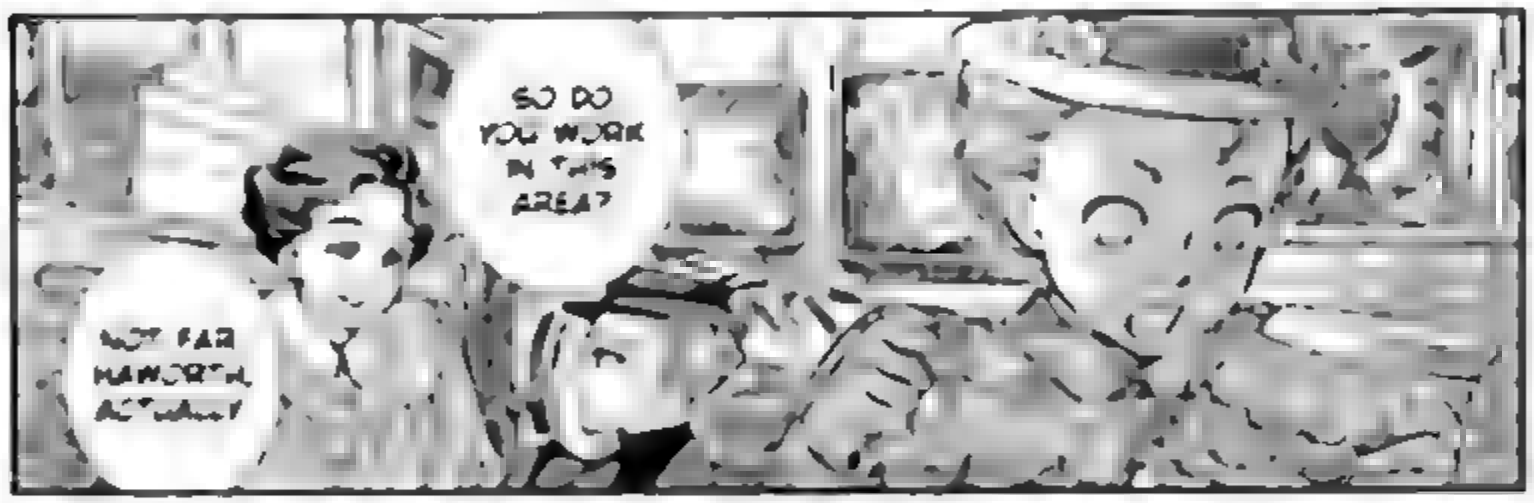
COME ON, ROBERT, TAKE THIS SERIOUS-LY!

ROB-ERT!

I HOPE THEY'LL LET ME PLAY TODAY...

Chapter 10:
Shopping Together


AH! THIS IS LOVELY!


SO DO YOU WORK IN THIS AREA?
NOT FAR HAWORTH, ACTUALLY

I COULD SELL IT TO YOU BY THE FOOT, IF YOU LIKE
HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT?

EXCUSE ME
DO YOU SELL THIS BY THE YARD?

Chapter 10
Shopping Together

BUT THIS IS SO BEAUTI-FUL..

I DO HAVE A SIMILAR MATERIAL THAT'S MACHINE-WOVEN..

YOU HAVE SOME EYE

OH, THIS IS HAND-WOVEN, SO IT'S MORE EXPENSIVE.

I'M AFRAID A SIXPENCE WOULDN'T QUITE COVER IT.

AH

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU CHEAP

AND THIS.

THERE'S THIS..

ALL OF THE HAND-WOVEN MATERIAL IS TOO RICH FOR YOUR BLOOD

THERE'S NOTHING TO PONDER OVER.

AFTER SEEIN' THIS ONE

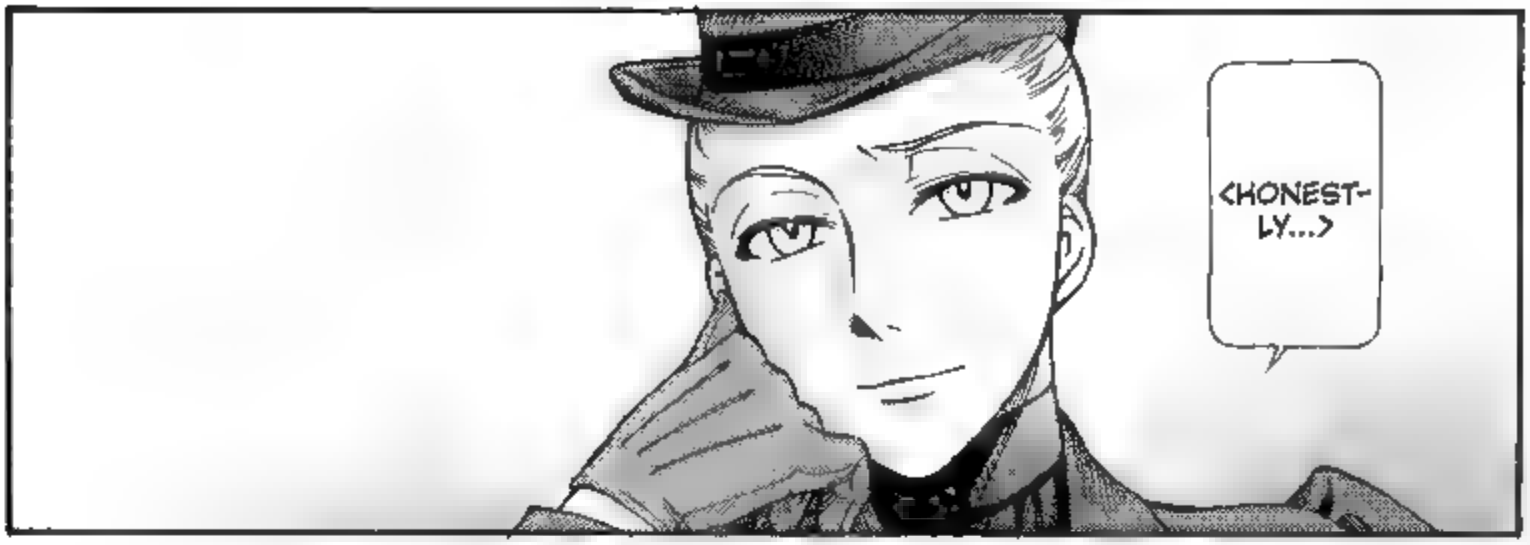
MMM...

MMM...

I'D LIKE TO SELL IT TO YOU, AS YOU'RE SO OBVIOUSLY FOND OF IT...

SEEING OUR MISTRESS'S DRESSES HAS HAD THE EFFECT OF MAKING HER QUITE THE CONNOIS-SEUR.

BUT I AM RUNNING A BUSI-NESS..


<HONEST-
LY...>

ALMA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

I SAID, IT'S RIGHT IN THIS AREA!!
YOU NEED TO BE MORE SPECIFIC!

DON'T WORRY, IT'S JUST ONE SMALL PICTURE FRAME.

THAT'S ALL I WANT.

THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT?

IF IT'S HEAVY, YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT IT.

WHEN I TOLD 'EM YOU AND I ARE GOIN' INTO TOWN TOMORROW...

IT'S THE SHOPPING TRIP...

WHAT, YOU'RE GOING TOO, ALMA?

IN THAT CASE, MAYBE I'LL ASK FOR SOMETHING AS WELL.

EH!? YOU'RE GOIN' T' BUY 'ER SOMETHIN' WHILE YOU'RE OUT?

FINE, FINE.

CAN I MAKE A REQUEST TOO, ALMA?

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT...

POLLY, WATCH WHAT I'M DRAWIN'!!

YOU SEE!? IT'S 'ERE! RIGHT 'ERE!!

GURI (CIRCLE) GURI

YOU'D DO BETTER ASKING POLLY.

FAIR WARNING THOUGH, I DON'T KNOW THE SHOPS IN TOWN VERY WELL.

'ANG ON! ALMA!!

...'COS I DON'T 'AVE THE MONEY TO BUY FOR ANYONE BUT MESELF!!

EVERYONE 'AD BETTER PAY ME BEFOREHAND...

YE'LL KNOW IT WHEN YE SEE IT.

MM...

THE SHOP'S IN A BLUE BUILDIN'!

IT'S ALL GETTIN' MIXED UP!!

WAIT! WAIT A TIC!

REMEMBER TO BRING ME TH' CHANGE.

'ERE YOU ARE, DEAR.

UM...

JESSICA, ONE SHILLING...

WHOSE IS THIS?

Jessica 15,

MINE!

I DON'T 'AVE ANY MONEY TO LEND...

.....

WHO ARE YOU, SHYLOCK?

ULP...

'ERE YOU ARE, LUV.

IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, I'VE BEEN MADE THE SHOPPIN' SURROGATE OF EVERY MAID IN THIS 'OUSE...

THAT FITS YOU TO A T, DOESN'T IT?

AFTER ALL, YOU WANTED TO GO SHOPPING.

AH!

INSTEAD OF DOING IT THAT WAY...

...WHY NOT JUST HAVE EACH PERSON WRITE THEIR NAME AND WHAT THEY WANT ON AN ENVELOPE, INTO WHICH THEY CAN INSERT THE PROPER AMOUNT OF MONEY?

WHAT'S FUN IS SHOPPIN' FOR MESELF!

ALMA, YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND!

<IS SHE HAVING FUN..?>

NNNGH...

MMM...

I SAY IT AGAIN, GIVE UP ON THAT MATERIAL.

YOU SIMPLY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO BUY IT.

IT WAS TOO BEAUTIFUL TO GIVE UP THAT EASILY!

YOU SHOULD'VE CHOSEN THAT FROM THE BEGINNING AND NOT WASTED ALL THIS TIME DILLY-DALLYING.

HEH-HEH! ME UNDER-GARMENTS!

AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO AFFIX THAT MATERIAL?

THANK YOU.

PLEASE COME AGAIN.

AH! POLLY!

THE "ORDERS" FROM THE OTHERS!

WE'D BETTER TAKE CARE OF THEM BEFORE WE FORGET.

LET'S SEE THEM.

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!

JUST MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET CAUGHT.

THEY'VE BEEN STRICT ABOUT THAT LATELY.

DON'T WORRY, I WON'T SEW IT ONTO ME DAILIES.

I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT A BIGGER BAG.

NO WORRIES ON THAT ACCOUNT!

I BROUGHT ONE!

UM...

...AND A SCRAP-BOOK...

...AND BON-BONS...

A GREEN PICTURE FRAME...

SCRAPBOOK

Cecily

...AND THIS...

QUITE A FEW...

I RE-MEMBER THAT BAG...

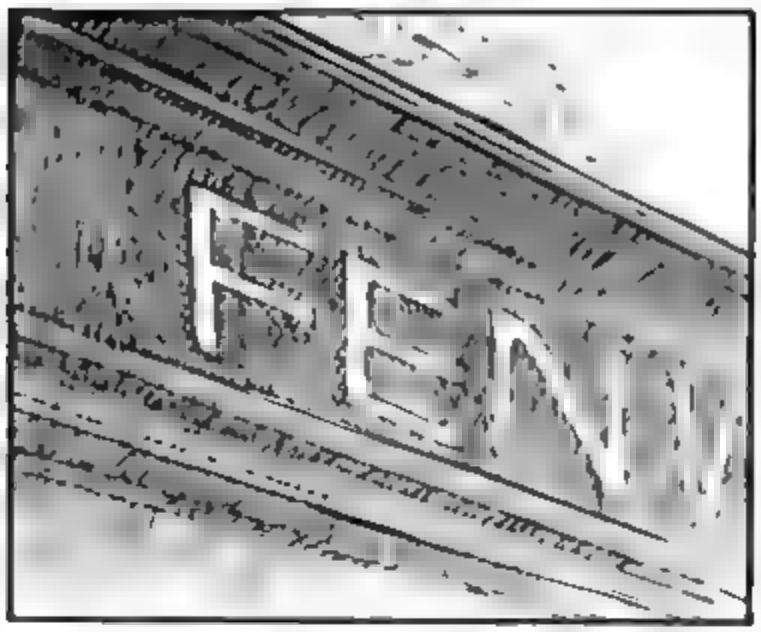
YOU'RE GOING TO WALK AROUND WITH THAT OVER YOUR SHOULDER?

TA-DAA!!

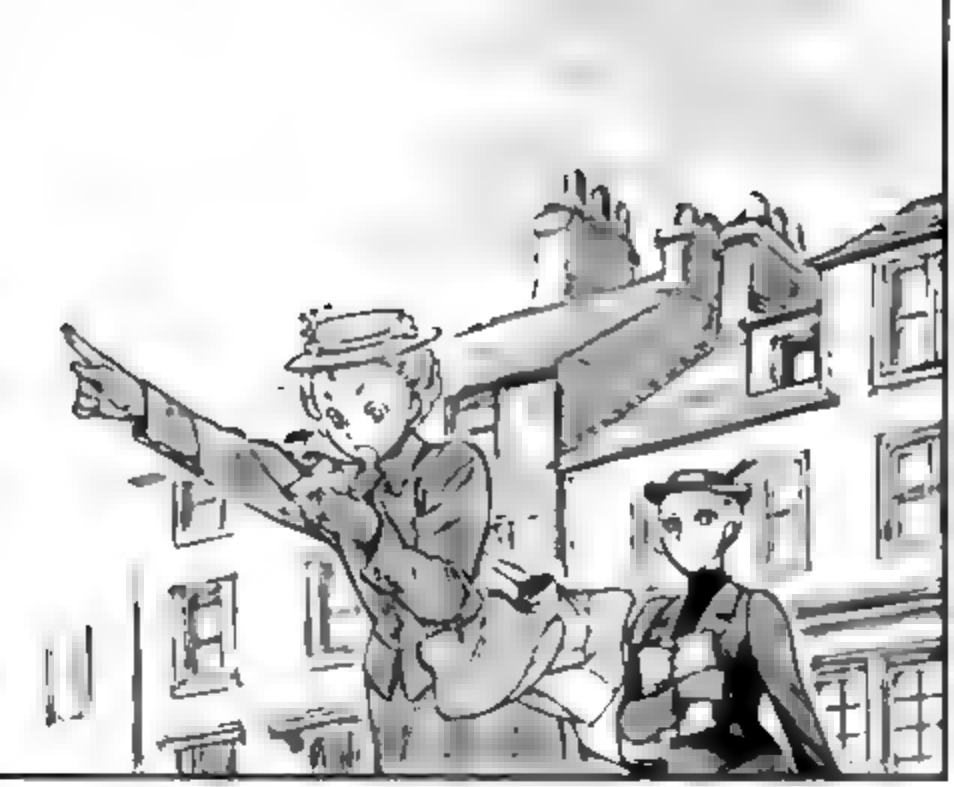
BIRO (FLUTTER)

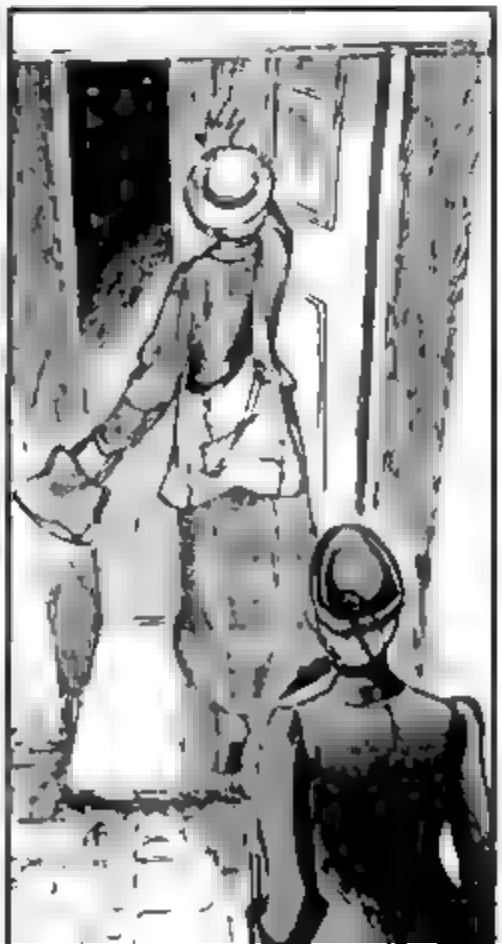
WELL, I MADE IT MESELF! IT'D BE A WASTE NOT TO USE IT!

I DON'T EVEN WANT TO WALK NEXT TO IT...

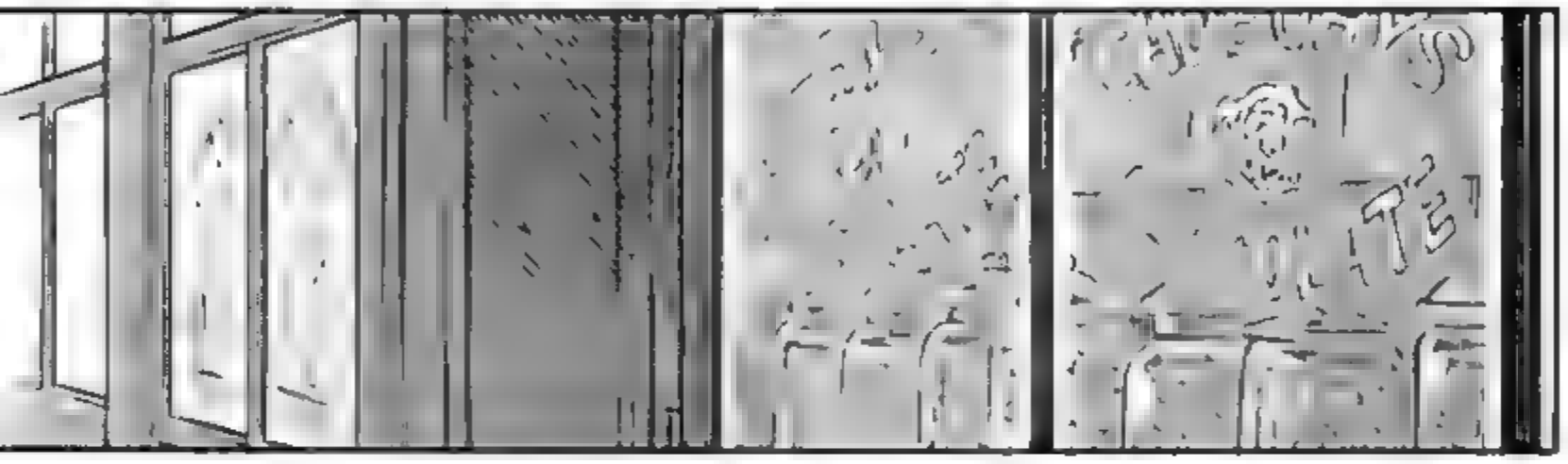

FIEND

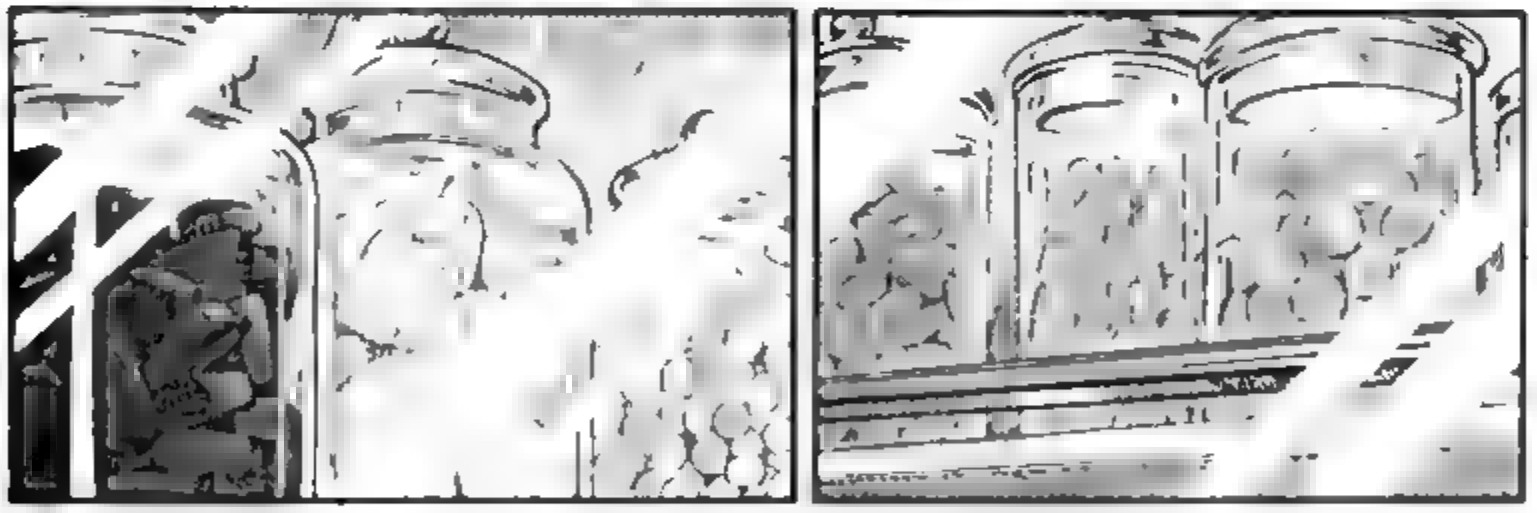
LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!
COME ON, ALMA!

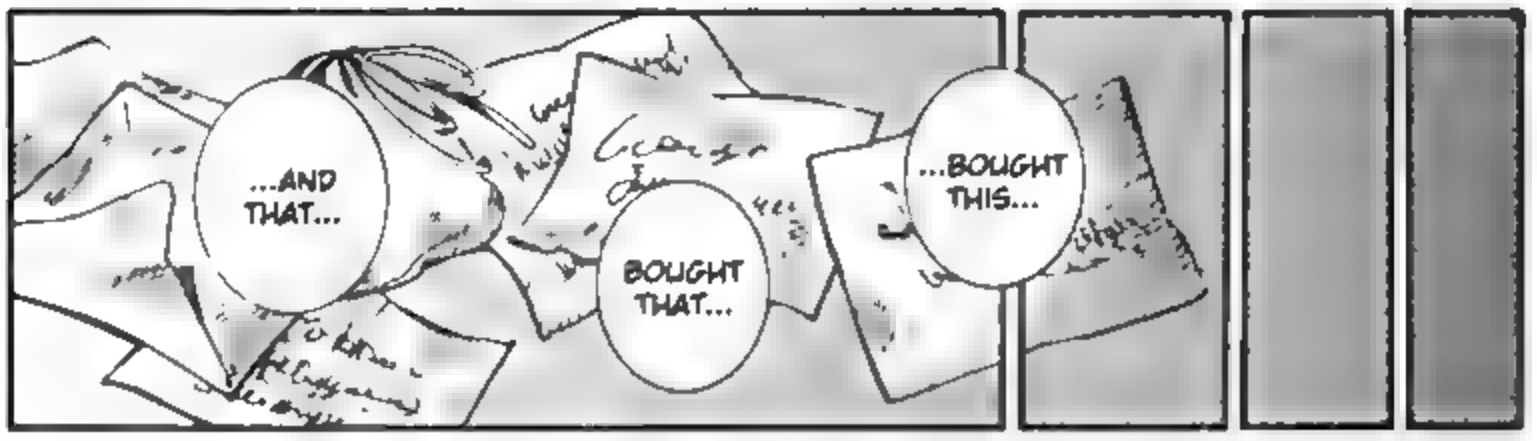




ISN'T THERE A GAME THAT GOES LIKE THIS?
EH?






...AND THAT...
BOUGHT THAT...
...BOUGHT THIS...

NOW I CAN SHOP FOR MESELF!!

WE'RE FINISHED FILLIN' EVERY-ONE'S ORDERS!!

CALM IT DOWN A TIC.

WHEREVER YOU'D LIKE TO GO IS FINE.

IS THERE ANYTHIN' YOU WANT TO GET, ALMA?

THEN LET'S WALK THIS WAY AND SEE WHAT WE COME ACROSS!

MMM, NOT ESPECIALLY.

THERE ARE MORE STORES HERE THAN I REALISED.

THIS IS THE BIGGEST SHOPPIN' DISTRICT IN THE AREA!

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT DO YOU USUALLY DO ON YOUR DAY OFF, ALMA?

OH, I MIGHT GO TO THE RIVER, FOR EXAMPLE...

...AND JUST STROLL AROUND ...

EH?

YOU NEED TO SHOP MORE!

IT'S FUN!

AH! ALMA, LOOK AT THAT!

I LOVE 'ATS...

WISH I COULD 'AVE A NEW ONE...

AND WHERE WOULD YOU WEAR A HAT LIKE THAT?

HUH! THIS YEAR'S DESIGN!

BUT BLIMEY! LOOK AT THE PRICE!

25s

New Design

HEH HEH!

MM?

THANK YOU!

THEY'RE GOR-GEOUS!

AH! FLOWERS!

DAHLIAS ARE IN BLOOM ALREADY...

AH! AND CHEAP!

4 FOR ½d.

NO FLOWERS OR SWEETS TODAY!!

MM...

NO!

IT WOULD BE NICE TO BRIGHTEN UP MY ROOM WITH THEM.

ARE YOU GOING TO BUY SOME?

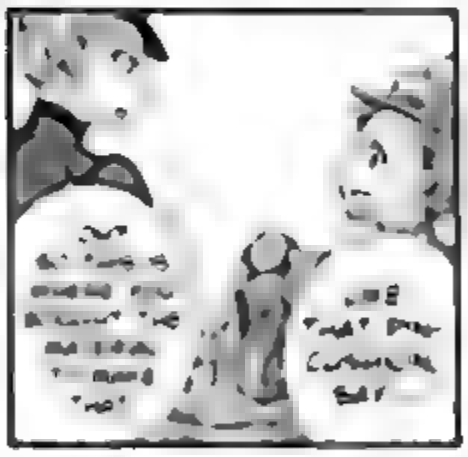
I'M NOT BUYIN' ANYTHIN' THAT WILL DISAPPEAR SO SOON AFTER I BUY IT!

WHAT ARE YOUR GUIDE-LINES?

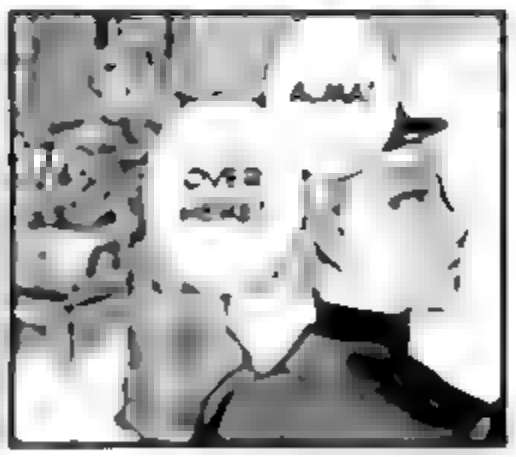
I'M SORRY, BUT NEXT TIME!

HEH-HEH! I'M BACK AGAIN!

OH GOD AFTER-NOON

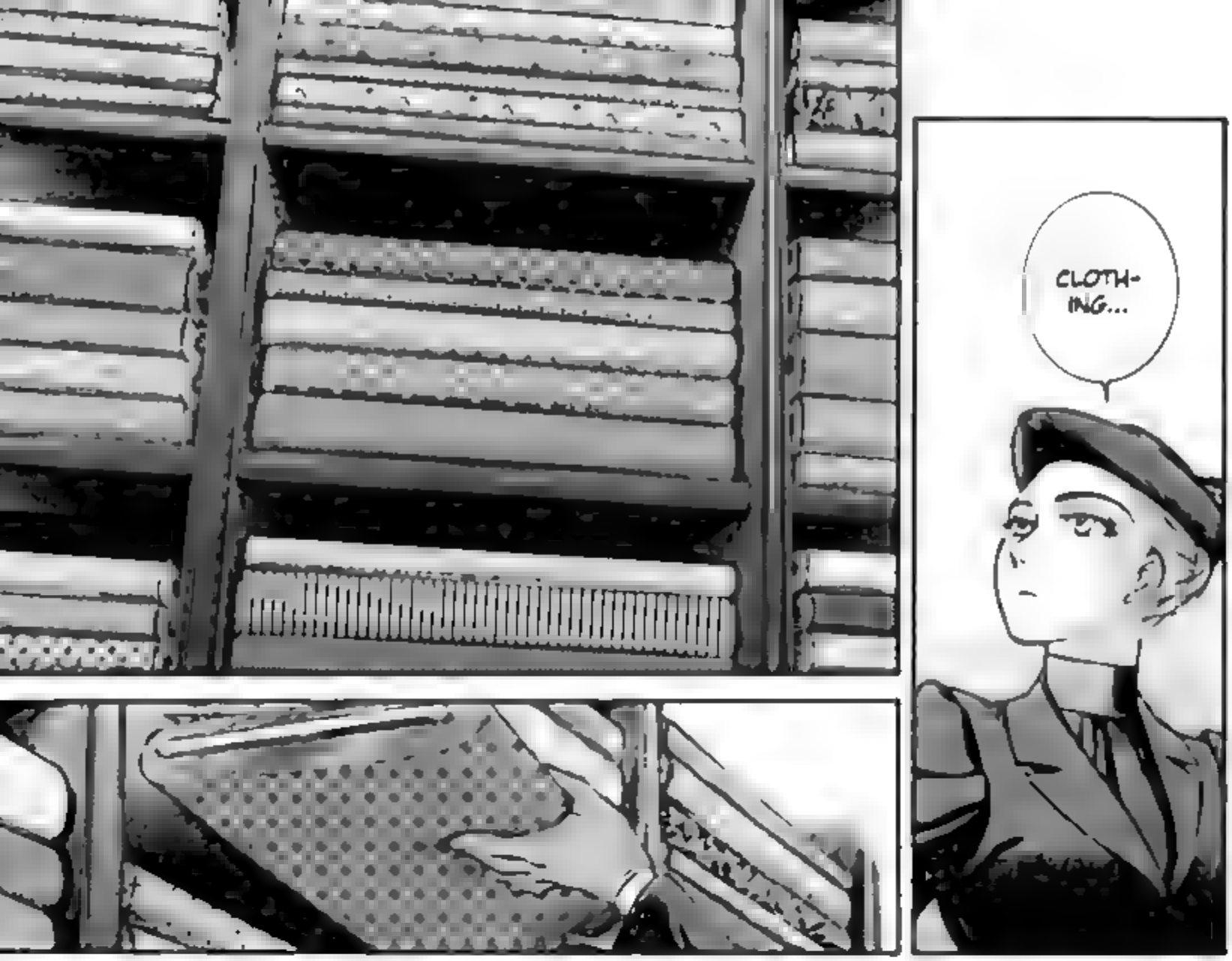


SCRAPS OF CLOTH


AWAY OVER HERE!

WHAT? THAT PLAN MATERIAL??

BUT THAT COST'S MORE MONEY


CLOTH-
ING...

EH? YOU DIDN'T BUY WHAT YOU WERE LOOKIN' AT?
MMM .. MAYBE ANOTHER TIME...

CHMM >

POLLY, WAIT A MOMENT.

I'M TIRED OF THE ONES AT THE MANSION.

WHAT? BOOKS?

MM.

AND IF IT'S A BOOK THAT EVERYONE CAN READ, MRS. W ECK MIGHT EVEN REIMBURSE ME FOR IT.

I SEE!

WE SHOULD GET A BOOK WITH LOTS OF ILLUSTRA-TIONS.

SOME-THIN' INTERES-TIN'.

IT WOULD HAVE TO BE A BOOK THAT EVERYONE WOULD READ.

ARE THESE ALL THREE PENCE?

PER 3d.

OF COURSE, I COULD ALWAYS JUST BUY A BOOK FOR MYSELF.

At that moment, the Queen's face lit up with astonishment and expectation...

. and as she clasped the hand of her beloved prince, she said .

AH!

'OW ABOUT THIS ONE!?

THIS!! LET'S GET THIS!

THERE ARE THREE VOLUMES! A REAL VALUE!

MRS. WIECK WOULD NEVER PAY OUT MONEY FOR A THREE-VOLUME SERIES.

"YOUR WORDS MAKE ME GLOW LIKE A PEARL FROM WITHIN."

"OH, LOVELY LADY! MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY CORAL FORMATION!"

AH! WHAT ABOUT MAGAZINES!?

THEY'VE GOT STORIES PUBLISHED IN THEM!

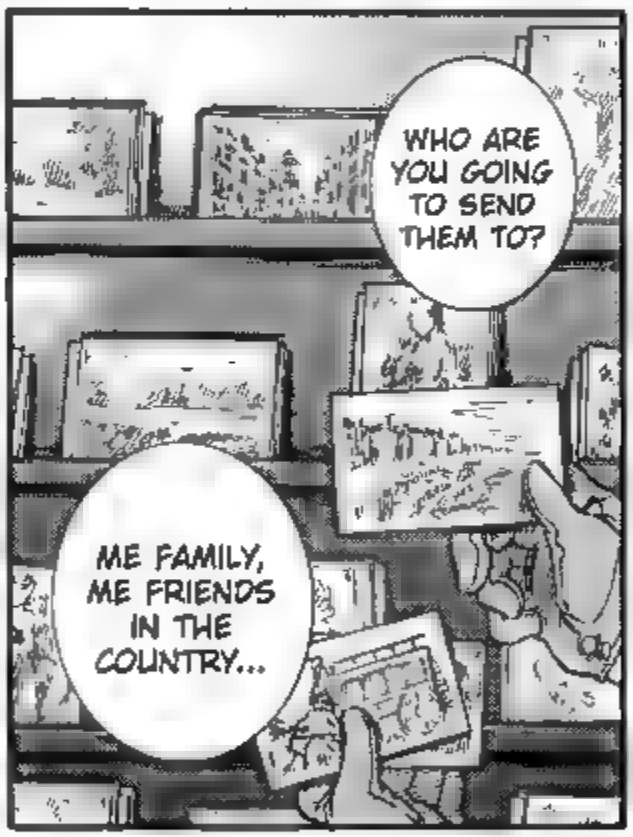
EH? IN THAT CASE, NO, THANK YOU.

IF YOU WANT TO READ IT SO BADLY, BUY IT YOURSELF.

OH, A TRAVEL GUIDE, A BOOK ON GARDEN-ING...
WHAT DID YOU BUY?
HUH...

THANK YOU...

I'LL TAKE THESE!
THANK YOU.


WHO ARE YOU GOING TO SEND THEM TO?
ME FAMILY, ME FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY...

I KEEP TRAIN FARE SEPARATE!
I...
I'M FINE!
'ERE'S YOUR CHANGE.

DID YOU GO THROUGH YOUR ALLOWANCE A-READY?
U-P...

AH... I 'OPE I 'AVE ENOUGH.
LET'S SEE, TRAIN FARE HOME...

ARE YOU CONTENT NOW?

YES!

<!?

<MARIA ...!?

I'M SORRY, ALMA...

...FOR DRAGGIN' YOU AROUND ALL DAY.

NO APOLOGY IS NECES-SARY.

DO YOU FEEL LIKE GOIN' BACK HOME TO GERMANY?

.....

IF I HAD SPENT MY DAY OFF AT THE MAN-SION, I'M SURE SOMEONE WOULD HAVE PUT ME TO WORK.

BESIDES, I HAVE NO FAMILY OVER HERE.

HFF!
HFF!
HFF!
HFF!
WELL...
SOME-TIMES.
IS THE DOG YOURS?
NO, HE'S NOT MINE...
...BUT HE HANGS AROUND HERE BECAUSE THE CUSTOMERS ALWAYS GIVE HIM FOOD.
OH, LOOK AT YOU!
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
TOO BAD.
ALL I 'AVE IS TEA!
URI (PET)
AH-HA-HA! FRIENDLY MUTT, AREN'T YOU?

MM?

OH!

PUNCH

WE'RE BACK!

AH! ABOUT TIME!

POLLY! ALMA!

DID YOU PICK UP WHAT I ASKED FOR!?

YES, WE DID.

WHAT ABOUT MINE?

DON'T ALL RUSH ME AT ONCE.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

LET ME SEE!!

DID I GIVE YOU ENOUGH MONEY?

...THE BAG GETS EMP-TIED...

...ALL AT ONCE!!

...AND WE'RE IN NO MOOD TO PLAY FATHER CHRISTMAS!

LISTEN. WE'VE BEEN WORKING ALL DAY, WE'RE EXHAUSTED ...

SO QUIT STALLING AND EMPTY OUT YOUR BAG.

MMM ...

NOW, WHICH SHALL I TAKE OUT FIRST...?

SAY, POLLY ...

ALL RIGHT.

IF YOU INSIST.

OHHH!!
CHOCOLATES
Comic Cuts
Writing Tablet
SCRAPBO

'ERE'S YOUR CHANGE.
'ERE'S YOURS.
THANK YOU TOO, ALMA.
AHHH, I SHOULD'VE ASKED FOR THAT!
GIVE ME ONE LATER ON!
THANK YOU, POLLY!
HOORAY! THIS BRAND OF TOFFEE IS DELICIOUS!
CRIKEY! WHOSE ARE THESE?
I'M COL-LECTING CARDS!
ALL CIG-ARETTES ARE THE SAME, AREN'T THEY?
I TOLD YOU PLAYER'S!
OI, THIS IS WRONG!
THREE-PENCE.
SIX-PENCE.
THOMAS, BUY SOME CIGS FROM ME?
WHAT DID YOU BUY, POLLY?
FOUR-PENCE AND TWO FAR-THINGS...
FIRST, I BOUGHT...
HEH HEH! WANNA SEE?

<CERTAIN-LY.>

<I BOUGHT A FEW BOOKS THAT I THOUGHT EVERYONE COULD READ.>

<WOULD YOU PASS THEM ON TO MRS. WIECK?>

<ADELE.>

<HERE.>

<WHAT DID YOU SEE TODAY?>

<.....>

<I'D BE PLEASED IF SHE REIM-BURSED ME FOR THE BOOKS.>

<WHAT ABOUT MON-EY?>

<ALMA ...>

<...DON'T LET THAT GIRL TEMPT YOU INTO THE HABIT OF SPENDING MONEY WASTE-FULLY.>

<I'M COMING 'ROUND TO THE NOTION THAT IT MIGHT BE FUN ONCE IN A WHILE TO GO SHOPPING WITHOUT ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE IN MIND.>

<I WENT WITH POLLY HERE AND THERE, WHEREVER HER FANCY LED.>

<VAR-IOUS THINGS>

<BUT NOW I UNDERSTAND HOW POLLY FEELS.>

<EVEN IF YOU WEREN'T SPECIFICALLY WANTING AN ITEM, SEEING IT BEFORE YOUR EYES MAKES YOU CRAVE IT.>

<DON'T WORRY>

<I WON'T BE GOING BACK TO TOWN FOR SOME TIME.>

<IF ONLY SHE WOULD REALISE THAT AS WELL.>

<IT'S A SETUP FOR TEMPTATION.>

<... PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT.>

<SHOPPING IS MORE WHOLESOME THAN WHAT SHE'S UP TO, AT LEAST.>

<BY THE WAY, I SPOTTED MARIA IN TOWN.>

<SHE WAS WITH SOMEONE.>

<I WONDER IF SHE'S EMBARKED UPON ANOTHER AFFAIR.>

<...>

Chapter 11:
Three Singers
(Part 1)

WAAAA

AWAAAA CCHEEEERO

GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE LONDON

BRAVO, FIGARO!!

BRAVO, ALMA-VIVA!!

BRAVO, ROSINA!!

Chapter 11
Three Singers
(Part 1)

BRAVO!!

BRAVO!!

THANK YOU!

GREAT JOB!

YOU WERE BRILLIANT TONIGHT!

THANK YOU!

YOU TOO, COUNT !!

CALL ME BY MY NAME, GEORGE!

YOU WERE MAGNIF-ICENT, ROSINA !!

DON'T CALL ME BY MY CHAR-ACTER'S NAME, GEORGE!!

NOT HALF AS WELL AS YOU, LOUISE.

HE'S INCORRI-GIBLE...

YOU DID A WONDER-FUL JOB, ALAN.

I'VE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES NOT TO CALL ME BY MY CHARACTER'S NAME.

AND YOU WERE EXCELLENT AS WELL, DR. BARTOLO !!

THANK YOU, SIR.

TONIGHT'S WAS A BRILLIANT PERFOR-MANCE!

ALL OF YOU!

THANK YOU.

O'CON-NOR...

YOU TOO.

DON'T SELL YOUR-SELF SHORT.

YES, SOME-HOW.

I CAN BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF.

EVERY-THING WENT WELL TONIGHT, DIDN'T IT?

GEORGE!! LOUISE!! ALAN!!

MM?

SEE!?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT.

ALAN, YOU WERE FANTASTIC.

NOW YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE AT HOME ON THE STAGE!

YES, SIR!

GO!

ONE MORE CURTAIN CALL!

GEORGE !!

WAAAAAAA

WAA (CHEEER)

OI, ALAN! DID YOU SEE THAT!?

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE AUDIENCE IS STANDING UP LIKE THAT.

SOMEONE IN THE FIRST ROW FAINTED!

GEORGE IS AMAZING, ISN'T HE?

THAT ROLE IS PERFECT FOR HIM.

SO MUCH SO THAT IT SEEMS UN-FATHOMABLE HE HASN'T PLAYED IT BEFORE NOW.

MR. O'CON-NOR!

YES?

LOOK AT THIS, YOU LOT.

WE'VE BEEN REVIEWED.

SO SOON !?

I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING WRITTEN ABOUT ME...

UM...

LET'S SEE...

"ALTHOUGH HE DOESN'T STRETCH BEYOND THE PRE-EXISTING IMAGE OF FIGARO...

"...THE ACTOR POS-SESSES A HIGH LEVEL OF ARTISTRY THAT..."

BILGE-WATER! IF YOU'RE GOING TO PRAISE ME, PRAISE ME!

OH!

AH!

ALAN!

EH!?

YOU'RE IN HERE TOO!!

NOT AT ALL, MY BOY!

AND ABOVE MY NAME, BOTH OF YOU GET TWO INCHES OF SPACE.

FOR A FIRST-TIME SOLOIST TO GET EVEN THIS MUCH SPACE IS A GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT.

MY MENTION IS LITTLE MORE THAN A POST-SCRIPT.

Alan Burgess, who portrays Count Almaviva, turned in a good performance too.

WHAT!? BE HAPPY!!

YOU SAID IT WAS YOUR DREAM TO GET YOUR NAME IN PRINT, REMEMBER!?

...JUST ONE LINE?

THERE, YOU SEE!?

BAN (SLAP)

LONG AGO, HE BROUGHT THIS OLD HAND TO TEARS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

AND THIS CRITIC IS KNOWN FOR HIS SCATHING REVIEWS.

YES?

DUCHESS BROUGH IS CALLING FOR YOU.

A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME!

O!! ALAN!

ALAN!

I CAN'T STAND THAT WOMAN...

BE THAT AS IT MAY, HER FAMILY HAS BEEN A MAJOR INVESTOR IN THIS THEATRE FOR GENERATIONS.

YOU CANNOT REFUSE.

UGH!

LAST TIME, SHE MADE ME ACCOMPANY HER TO SOME FOOLISH PARTY...

I DON'T CARE, JUST GO!

LEAVE HER IN A GOOD MOOD!

FOR THE THEATRE'S SAKE!

...YES, SIR.

THE THINGS I DO FOR MY ART...

I'M TAKING ONE OF THESE.

MADAM BROUGH.

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE BOX SEATS.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, ALAN. I ENJOY VIEWING THE OPERA SURROUNDED BY FELLOW PATRONS.

YOUR ARIA WAS LOVELY.

WELL, ALAN.

YOU HONOUR ME, MADAM.

HOH HOH HOH! OH, I DON'T BELIEVE THAT!

HOH HOH HOH HOH!

I'M SURE IF I HAD KNOWN, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SING THE ARIA AS I DID OUT OF SHEER NERVOUSNESS.

I'M NATURALLY TIMID, YOU SEE.

I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE COMING TONIGHT, MADAM...

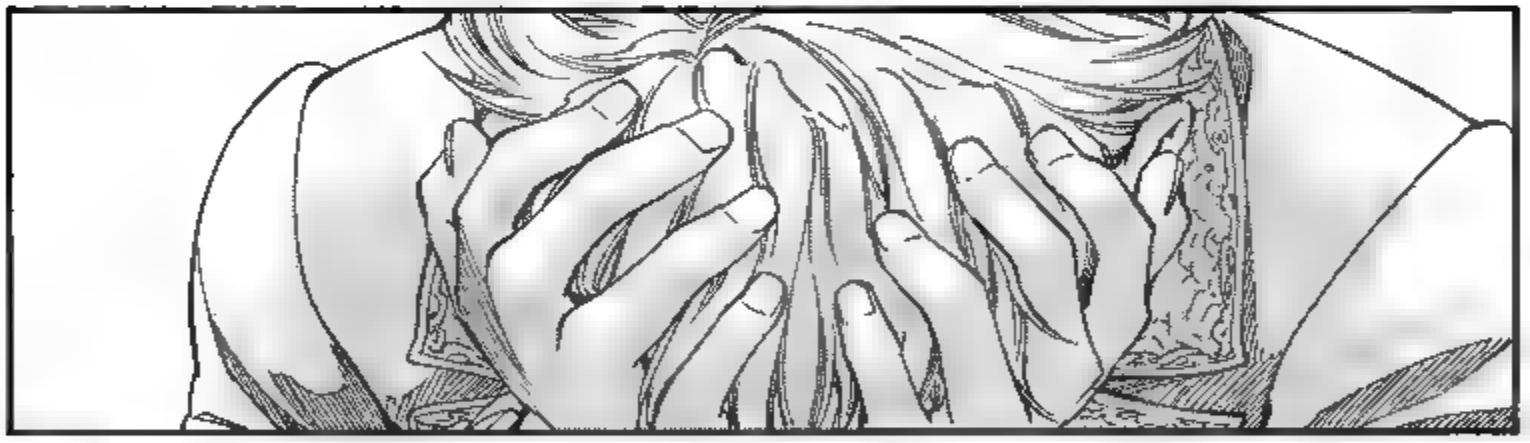
...BUT I'M LUCKY THAT NO ONE TOLD ME.

I DO FEEL A LITTLE SORRY FOR HIM THOUGH ...

.....

IN-CRED-IBLE...

.....



NOW, SEE HERE ...!
THE TRUTH IS, I'M NOT GOOD WITH CROWDS.

WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOING, MAN!?
YOU GOT BAMBOO-ZLED INTO AGREEING TO SING AT A DINNER PARTY!?
I JUST... SHE CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD ...

THAT'S A PITY, ALAN...

BEING FAVOURED IS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD.

YOU ARE A FAVOURITE OF OPERA-GOING MATRONS ALL OVER LONDON.

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT!

I'M WELL AWARE THAT MY MODICUM OF POPULARITY STEMS FROM MY LOOKS AND NOT FROM MY SINGING.

ALAN, DON'T TALK LIKE THAT.

ALL OF US BOW TO OUR PATRONS TO A GREATER OR LESSER EXTENT.

IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.

...THANK YOU, LOUISE.

BUT...

...SHE'S NOT MY PATRON.

NO?

WHAT ABOUT THAT OTHER WOMAN WHO WAS HERE LAST TIME?

OR THAT COUNT-ESS?

MANY MEN WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOUR PROBLEMS.

...IF I CHOSE ONE, I WOULD BE AFRAID OF THE REST.

TO BE HON-EST...

WELL ..

THERE WERE CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO HELPED TAKE CARE OF ME WHEN I WAS JUST START-ING OUT...

DID YOU HAVE A PATRON, LOUISE?

THAT'S GEORGE

THAT'S YOU, GEORGE ...

ME, I HAVEN'T HAD A SINGLE PATRON! I HAD TO SCRAPE BY FOR YEARS!

DON'T TELL ME YOU...

TOOK CARE OF YOU...

YOU KNOW ABOUT THOSE KINDS OF MEN.

THEY "GROOM" A GIRL WHO CATCHES THE R EYE, RAISE HER TO A CERTAIN LEVEL OF FAME AND THEN IT'S OVER ONCE THEY TIRE OF HER!

DON'T EVEN JEST ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT!!

OWW !!

BE THAT AS IT MAY, IT'S HARD HAVING TO CONSTANTLY FLATTER PEOPLE TO WIN THEIR FAVOUR.

.....

OF COURSE, IF THE WOMAN'S A POPULAR SINGER, IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY. THEN THEY WISH TO BECOME HER LOVER...

...WHEREAS THEY CONSIDER A NOVICE CHANTEUSE BENEATH THEM.

ALAN...

I HOPE TO CATCH UP TO YOU TWO AND REACH A POINT WHERE I CAN RELY SOLELY ON MY VOICE. THE SOONER THE BETTER.

OI, ALAN!

YOU AND I GREW UP TOGETHER. EVER SINCE WE WERE LADS, OUR HEARTS WERE SET ON GETTING HERE! THAT'S THE MAN I WANT TO PERFORM WITH!

AREN'T YOU THRILLED TO BE HERE?

I KNOW I AM!

YOU HEARD THE CROWD OUT THERE.

THEY WERE YELLING YOUR NAME TOO.

SINGING ISN'T ABOUT TRYING TO CATCH UP TO ANYONE.

...I KNOW.

DON'T WORRY. DESPITE HOW I SOUND, I HAVEN'T FALLEN SO LOW.

SORRY.

...YOU'RE RIGHT.

I WON'T

DON'T BE LATE, GEORGE

SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW

GOOD MORN-ING, ALAN.

GOOD MORN-ING.

A CAT?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

DID YOU DROP AN EARRING OR...?

I'M LOOKING FOR A CAT.

HAVE YOU SEEN ONE?

LOUISE?

AAH!

ALAN!?

"A KITTEN FOR A KITTEN.

"I'M SURE YOU'LL LOVE IT."

I'LL JUST SET THEM DOWN 'ERE...

DOSA

DOSA (THUD)

HALLO, MISS LOUISE!

ANOTHER LOAD 'AS ARRIVED FOR YE TODAY!

...CER-TAINLY IS CORNY.

THE POINT IS, SOME FOOLISH SOD SENT ME A LIVE CAT!!

COMIN' THROUGH! COMIN' THROUGH!

DOKA

DOKA

DOKA (STOMP)

THIS IS A DANGEROUS AREA WITH PEOPLE ALWAYS GO'NG BACK AND FORTH...

WHAT IF IT GETS STEPPED ON!?

WHEN WAS IT DELIVERED?

I BELIEVE ABOUT TWO HOURS AGO.

HAS THE DOOR BEEN LEFT OPEN THIS WHOLE TIME?

I CAN'T HELP IT...

AH, IN THERE, PLEASE.

WHEREVER THERE'S SPACE.

MISS LOUISE...

ALAN, WILL YOU SEARCH WITH ME!?

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

I HAVE NO DESIRE TO STUMBLE ACROSS A DEAD ANIMAL LATE AT NIGHT EITHER.

...IT WON'T STAY SHUT FOR MORE THAN A FEW SECONDS, WILL IT?

.....

THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT, EH? THE "DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD" OF POPULARITY?

.....

THIS IS WHAT YOU SAY WHEN YOU LOOK FOR AN ANIMAL!!

I WONDER IF IT WILL EVEN RESPOND TO SUCH ENTREATIES.

NO, 'AVEN'T SEEN ANY CAT 'ROUND 'ERE.

HAVEN'T SEEN IT.

HERE, KITTY-KITTY!

COME OUT, COME OUT...

...WHEREVER YOU ARE!

OH, ALAN, YOU ARE A NAUGHTY ONE!

A KITTEN?

ALAN! THOSE CLOTHES YOU GAVE ME LAST TIME REALLY CAME IN HANDY!

THEY FIT MY HUSBAND PERFECTLY.

OH, ALAN!

THANK YOU FOR THE CHAIR!

IF YOU EVER GET ANOTHER FINE PAINTING, SEND IT MY WAY AGAIN!

ALAN!

IS SHE THE KIND THAT SITS ON YOUR LAP AND PESTERS YOU TO BUY HER THINGS?

WHERE DOES THIS "KITTEN" HAIL FROM?

NO, NO, NO!!

THE REAL THING!

WITH FOUR LEGS AND A TAIL!!

YOU GIVE PRESENTS AWAY!?

I LIVE IN A BOARD-ING HOUSE !!

I DON'T HAVE ROOM FOR ALL THE GIFTS I'M GIVEN!!

YOU'RE VERY CHARITA-BLE.

ONLY WITH THE THINGS THE CON-TINGENT OF WIVES GIVE ME.

BUT ...!

LOUISE ...

IF WE HAVEN'T FOUND THE BEAST BY NOW, WE'RE NOT GOING TO.

LET'S GIVE UP ON THIS.

SAY...

HOW FAR WILL A CAT ROAM, ANYHOW?

IT DEPENDS ON THE SIZE...

...BUT A FEW HOURS HAVE PASSED...

. EVEN IF SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO IT, IT MUST'VE HAPPENED SOME-WHERE WE'RE NOT GOING TO SEE, SO IT'S ALL RIGHT.

ALAN!!

IT'S NOT YOUR RESPONSI-BILITY.

BUT...

YOUR ADMIRER IS TO BLAME FOR THIS.

YOU NEVER ASKED FOR A PET.

.....

I'M SORRY.

THANK HEAVENS ...

A WHITE CAT ON A WHITE BLANKET.

NO WONDER WE DIDN'T FIND IT. IT MUST'VE BEEN SLEEPING.

BLENDED RIGHT IN...

THERE IT IS...

YES, BUT...

DO YOU HAVE A MAID?

...SHE'S ALLERGIC, APPAR-ENTLY.

AH...

I DON'T KNOW. I'M HARDLY EVER AT HOME...

AND MY LANDLADY HATES CATS...

WELL?

GEORGE, DON'T BE SO ROUGH WITH IT...!

I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS.

A CAT?

REALLY !?

THANK YOU, GEORGE !!

NOT FOR MYSELF...

...BUT MY NIECE HAS BEEN PESTER-ING FOR A KITTEN RECENTLY ...

...SO I'LL GIVE IT TO HER.

EH?

YOU DON'T KNOW?

WHY DID LOUISE GET SO WORKED UP OVER A CAT?

PROBABLY HAD IT ON HER MIND WHILE SHE WAS HUNTING FOR THIS FELLA.

.....

BEFORE LOUISE BECAME SO BUSY, I TAKE IT SHE HAD MANY CATS.

SHE SAID ONE WAS RUN OVER IN THE STREET BY A CAR-RIAGE.

A CAT...

IT'S A COLD NIGHT.

ARE YOU ALONE, MISTER?

HAVE YOU HAD DINNER?

EH?

BUT IF YOU'RE WITH SOMEONE, IT CAN BE WARM.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, SIR.

ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY?

YES. YOU'RE HUNGRY, AREN'T YOU?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME A CUSTOMER HAS EVER TREATED ME TO A MEAL.

JUST EAT YOUR FILL.

.....

WHY DID YOU COME UP TO ME?

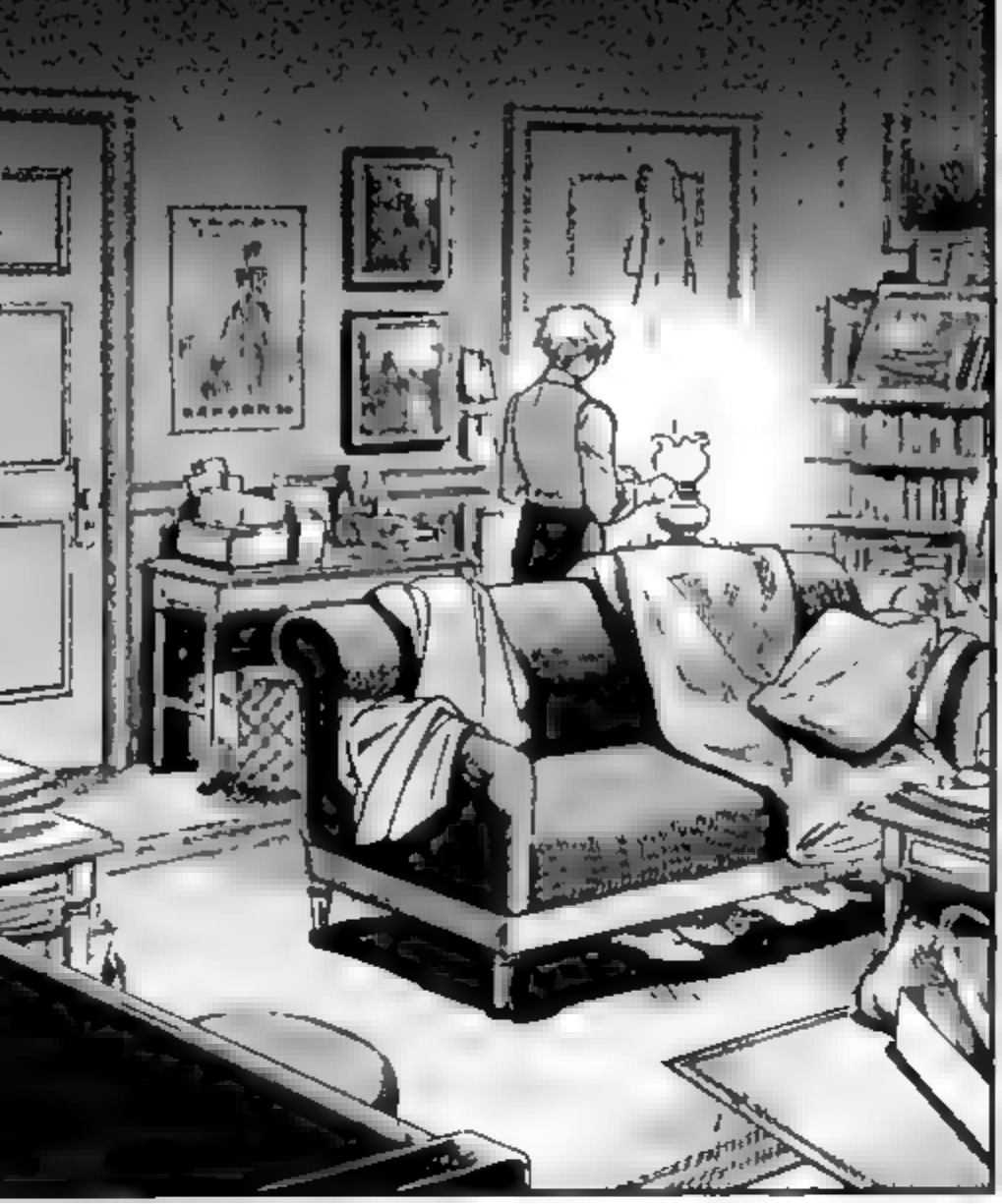
DID I LOOK THAT BORED?

LONELY MORE THAN BORED.

I THOUGHT I MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE.

OH, I DON'T MEAN TO SOUR YOUR MOOD!

I ONLY SAID YOU LOOKED LONELY.



СНА
(ЖСНИК)

ВЫЗА
FLAP!

НО
ОТЧЕГО

L'amoroso e sincero...
Though sincere and enamoured. .

...Lindoro...
...I, Lindoro...

...non può darvi, mi cara...
. .cannot offer you, my love..

...un tesoro.
...any fortune.

Io.....
I ...

Io...
I...

...un'anima amante...
...a loving soul...

...che fida e costante.
...that is faithful and true.

REALLY!? YOU'RE A SINGER!?

Ricco non sono...
I am not rich...

...ma un core vi dono...
...but my heart I can give...

DO YOU HAVE A SWEET-HEART?

I WORK AT THE THEATRE ONCE IN A WHILE.

PERHAPS YOU'VE SEEN ME BEFORE?

I DON'T BELIEVE SO, NO.

.....

I CAN'T DENY IT.

A SWEET-HEART? NO.

SOMEONE YOU'RE SWEET ON, THEN!

AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL HER?

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO, BUT...

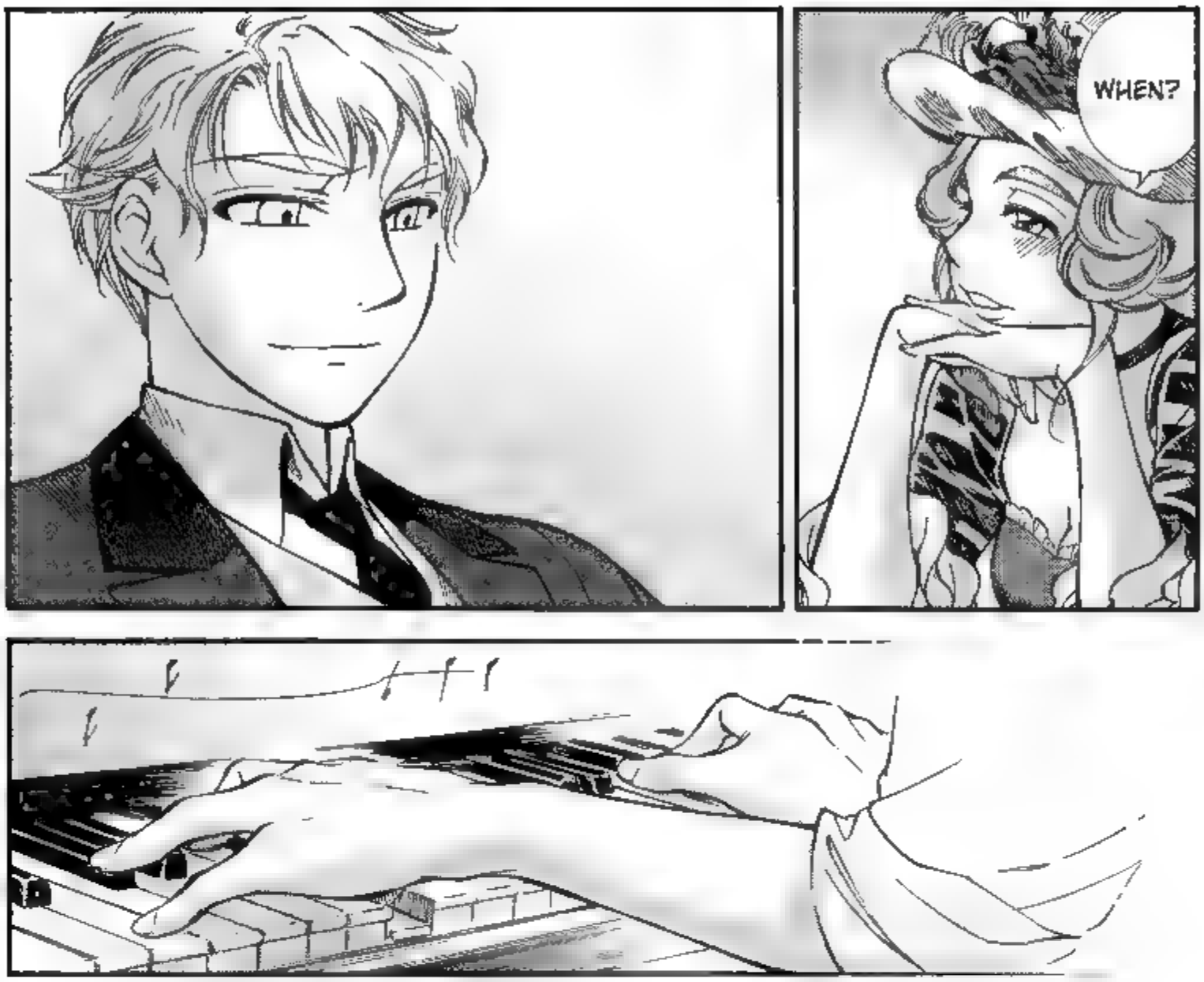
HAVE YOU TOLD HER YOU LOVE HER?

NO, NOT YET.

LUCKY GIRL!

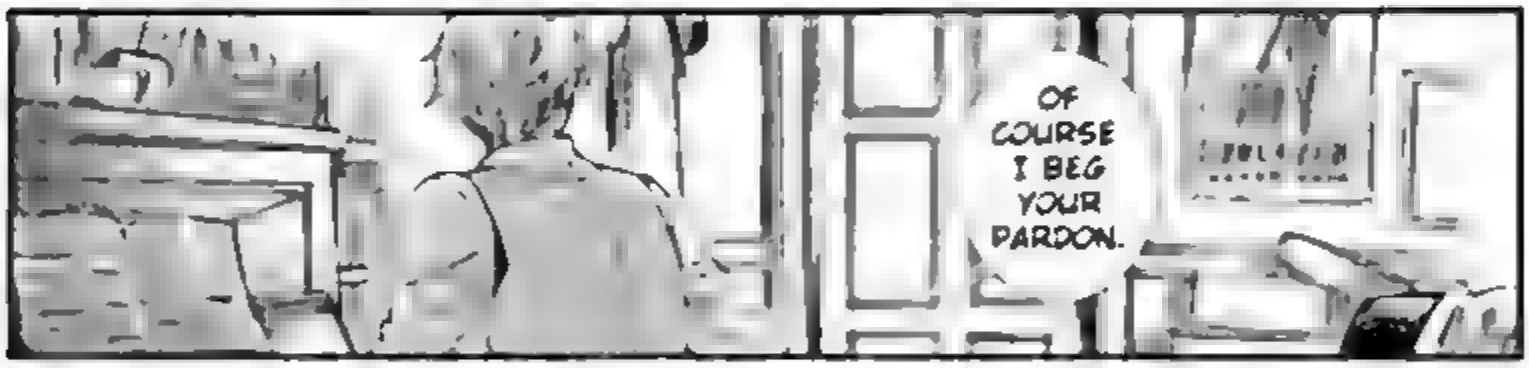
I WISH SOME-ONE FELT THAT WAY ABOUT ME!

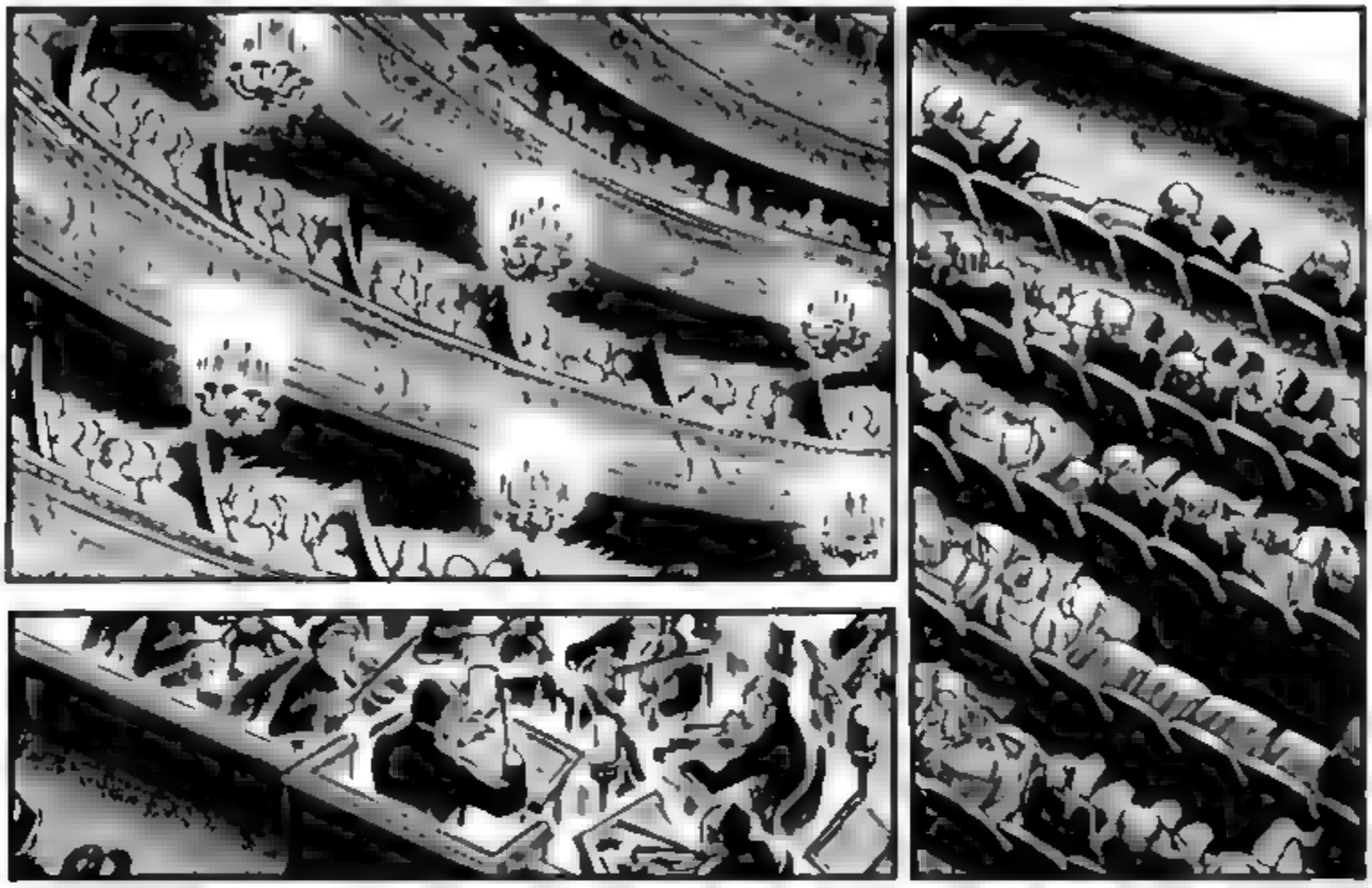
THEN WE COULD GET MAR-RIED!

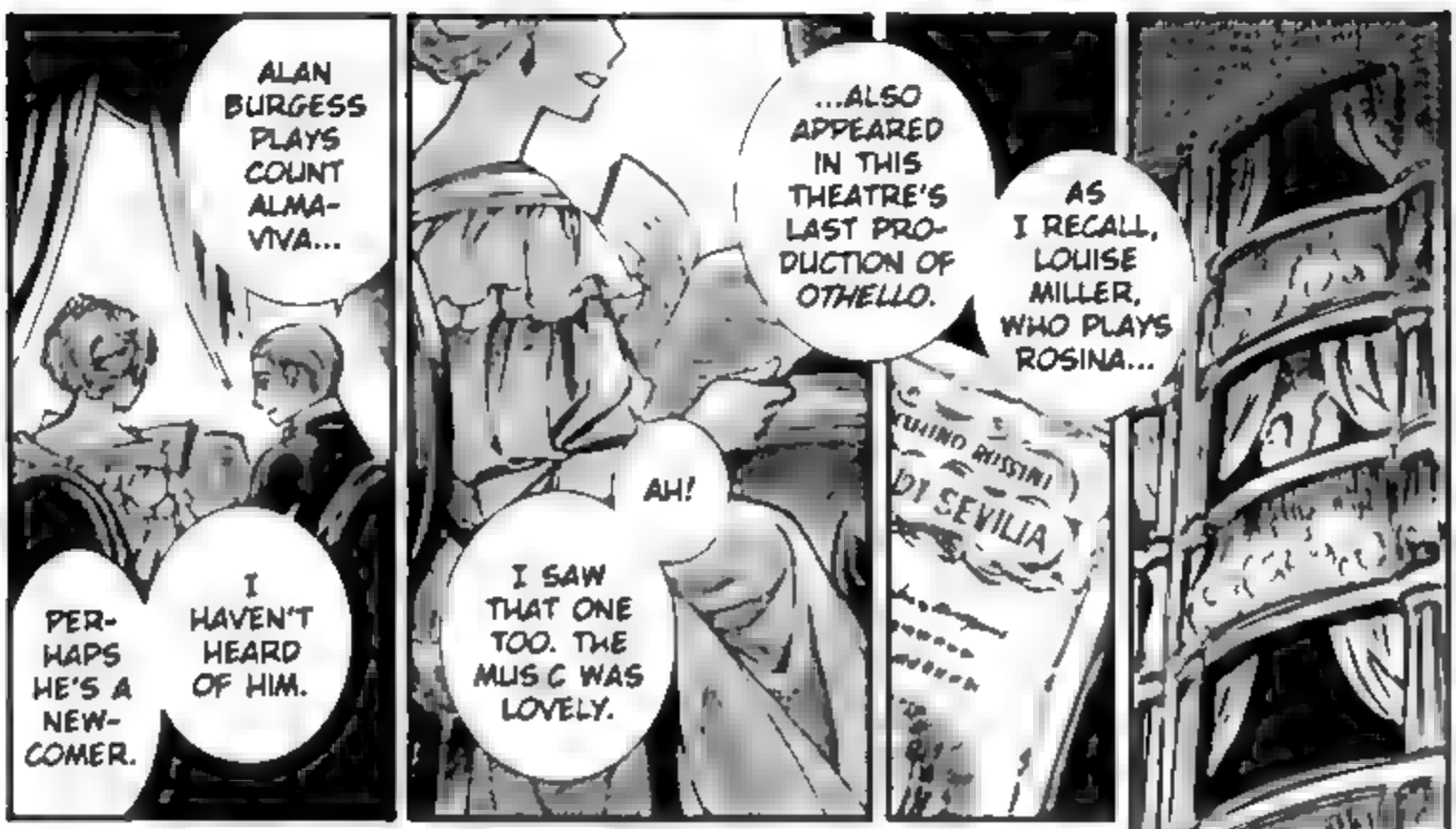

WHEN?

MR. BURGESS!
IT'S LATE. WOULD YOU MIND PUTTING OFF YOUR PRACTISE UNTIL TOMORROW?

MR. BURGESS!


OF COURSE I BEG YOUR PARDON.




ALAN BURGESS PLAYS COUNT ALMA-VIVA...
PER-HAPS HE'S A NEW-COMER.
I HAVEN'T HEARD OF HIM.
...ALSO APPEARED IN THIS THEATRE'S LAST PRO-DUCTION OF OTHELLO.
AH!
I SAW THAT ONE TOO. THE MUSIC WAS LOVELY.
AS I RECALL, LOUISE MILLER, WHO PLAYS ROSINA...
DI SEVILIA

DON'T STUMBLE WALKING OUT ON STAGE

EVERY-ONE'S HERE?

THE OVER-TURE IS DONE!

IS EVERY-THING READY?

ARE YOU NER-VOUS ALAN?

IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT

JUST DO AS YOU ALWAYS DO

THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO CONVINCE MYSELF OF

LOUISE

AND SO WILL THIS EVE-NING'S

OH, I DO.
AL-WAYS.
ENOUGH TO MAKE ME WANT TO FLEE THE THEATRE, TO BE HONEST

AS I ALWAYS DO, EH.

YOU PROB-ABLY DON'T GET BUTTER-FLIES IN THE STOMACH, DO YOU, LOUISE?

AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL HER?

IT'S STARTING

AFTERWORD TAN-TA-DAHH! MANGA!!

A WOMAN IS NOT BORN A MAID; SHE MUST BECOME A MAID.

SENPAI!

YOU MUST DEVOTE YOURSELVES TO YOUR CRAFT, ROOKIES.

GREETINGS, EVERYONE. THANK YOU FOR PURCHASING *EMMA* VOLUME NINE.

TO COMPENSATE FOR THE ABRUPT DECLINE IN "MAID" MATERIAL SINCE THIS BOOK SHIFTED ITS FOCUS TO TELLING SIDE STORIES, I, AMELIA, SHALL HOST THIS AFTERWORD FOR NO PARTICULAR REASON.

"FOR NO PARTICULAR REASON"?

.....

.....

...THIS IS VOLUME NINE!!

ANY-WAY...

HOW TO NAVIGATE LIFE'S STORMY SEAS

TALK LOUDER TO DISPEL AN UNCOMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE!

NO NO, THERE IS A REASON FOR EXAMPLE, YOU MIGHT SAY YOU'RE DOING IT FOR MY SAKE...

"NO PARTICULAR REASON"?

BUT I WANTED TO DRAW IT!

YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN TO LET IT GO.

"SIDE STORY"? THIS HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY OF THE ESTABLISHED CHARACTERS.

ALTHOUGH, I CAN'T HELP BUT RAISE AN EYEBROW AT THE INCLUSION OF THAT LAST STORY, THE ONE ABOUT THE SINGERS.

.. AND IT RUNS ALONG THE SAME GENERAL LINES AS THE PREVIOUS VOLUME.

WELL, THIS VOLUME IS THE SECOND OF THE "SIDE STORIES" COLLECTIONS ..

CHAPTER 8: DOROTHEA AND WILHELM'S BEDROOM SCENE

UM... ANY REVISIONS TO MAKE THIS TIME...?

ASSIS-TANT →

BY THE WAY, BEFORE THEY WERE PUBLISHED AS A FULL VOLUME, I REVIEWED THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS FROM THE MAGAZINE AS ALWAYS.

..."MAKE THE CHEST AND ARMS LOOK BEAUTIFUL" OR "GIVE IT AN EROTIC QUALITY"... IN OTHER WORDS, I FOCUS ON THE SENSUAL ASPECTS AND IGNORE EVERYTHING ELSE..

WHENEVER I DO A STORY LIKE THIS, THE ONLY THING I FOCUS ON IS

CHECKING IT AFTERWARDS

GOOD TO GO AS-IS.

ALL RIGHT..

EH...?

SAYING IT IN A CUTE MANNER DOESN'T EXCUSE YOU

I DON'T CARE! I LIKE DRAWING SEXY STUFF!

HMPH!

SUBASH CHANDRA (26)

I CAME UP WITH HIS NAME BUT DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO USE IT IN THE STORY. AFTER GRADUATING FROM UNIVERSITY IN BENGAL, HE WAS HIRED AS AN INTERPRETER BY HAKIM'S FATHER.. IS WHAT I IMAGINE.

MY MAJOR WAS SANSKRIT LITERATURE AND HINDU PHILOSOPHY.

TENNIS FOR BEGINNERS

A FEW WORDS ABOUT EACH CHAPTER

CHAPTER 1: ERICH AND TEO

I WAS HAPPY TO GET TO DRAW A SQUIRREL AND TONS OF TREES AND LEAVES.

LOOKING BACK, I WISH I'D GIVEN A BETTER SENSE OF THE SCALE OF THE TREES.

CHAPTER 8: ON WINGS OF SONG

I THINK MENDELSSOHN'S *ON WINGS OF SONG* IS AN ESPECIALLY BEAUTIFUL PIECE OF MUSIC.

IN THIS STORY, I DREW HAIR AND HANDS TO MY HEART'S CONTENT.

CHAPTER 9: FRIENDSHIP

I'VE WANTED TO DO THIS STORY ABOUT THESE TWO FOR QUITE A LONG TIME.

I WISH I COULD HAVE DELVED INTO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDIA AND ENGLAND A BIT MORE, BUT UNFORTUNATELY I JUST WASN'T ABLE TO FIT IT IN.

CHAPTER 10: SHOPPING TOGETHER

IT WAS FUN CHOOSING WHICH STORES TO PRESENT HERE.

AT THE TIME OF THIS STORY, "WINDOW SHOPPING" WAS JUST EMERGING AS AN AMUSING PASTIME AFTER THE IDEA OF "SHOW WINDOWS" WAS INTRODUCED BY THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

CHAPTERS 11 AND 12: THREE SINGERS

MY INTENTION WAS TO DO A LIGHT COMEDY HERE. .

...BUT IT KIND OF TURNED INTO A SERIOUS STORY.

THE PROTAGONIST OF THIS STORY IS NAMED "ALAN," WHICH SUPPORTS THE REALIZATION THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF CHARACTERS IN MY STORIES WHOSE NAMES START WITH "A."

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I LIKE THE LETTER ?

WELL...

.. THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE VOLUME TO GO TO CONCLUDE THIS "SIDE STORY" SERIES

EMMA'S STORY PROPER WILL ALSO END, AND I HAVE DEEP EMOTIONS ABOUT IT...

BUT WE HAVE ONE MORE VOLUME TO GO, SO STICK AROUND.

FARE-WELL UNTIL THEN.

THE END.

AND THAT'S PRETTY MUCH THE WAY IT WENT.

I HOPE YOU LIKED ONE OR MORE OF THE STORIES ABOVE.

SO-SO

ARTHUR

WHO THE DEVIL ARE YOU?

SAME AGE

JAN

POLLY

ELEANOR

.....

GRACE

A FAIR BIT

WE DON'T LOOK IT, DO WE?

ALMA

I'D FORGOTTEN WE'RE THE SAME AGE

SAME AGE

HANS

MARIA

WHAT, EVERYONE'S YOUNGER THAN ME!?

THOMAS

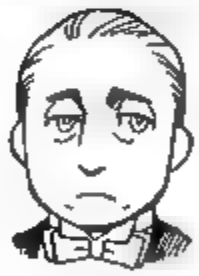
I DON'T LIKE THIS! EVERYONE WILL KNOW HOW OLD I AM!

ANNIE

CONSIDERABLE

VISCOUNT CAMPBELL

MRS. WIECK



MR. BRUCH

AM I THAT OLD?

OH DEAR!

THERESA

OTHERS

ADELE
AGE UNKNOWN

HOH-HOH-HOH!

YOU DON'T INQUIRE ABOUT A LADY'S AGE!

MONICA
EXCLUDED AT HER OWN REQUEST

CHARACTER AGE RANKING

ACTUALLY, I HAVEN'T DECIDED ON EXACT AGES FOR THE CHARACTERS, SO I'VE ARRANGED THEM HERE BY WHO IS MOST LIKELY OLDER OR YOUNGER THAN WHOM.

AMT. OF LIFE LIVED

HARDLY ANY

A LONG WAY TO GO YET

INCLUDING NON-HUMANS

TEO

"RAN-KING"?

ILSE

NINI

COLIN

ERICH

I'M THE OLDEST OF THIS GROUP!

VIVI

A FAIR BIT

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT AGE?

HAKIM

SAME AGE

EMMA

YOU'RE YOUNGER THAN ME!?

TASHA

SAME AGE

WILLIAM

WE WENT TO THE SAME SCHOOL TOO.

ROBERT

GETTING UP THERE

ACTUALLY, I'M STILL FAIRLY YOUNG.

DOROTHEA

I'M FAIRLY YOJNG TOO.

WILHELM

"MRS. TROLLOP"

AURELIA

I'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF YEARS LEFT IN ME.

JOHANNA

RICHARD

EXTREME

EVEN DEATH CAN'T KEEP ME DOWN.

KELLY

SAME AGE

SO I SEE.

AL

STEVENS

MARTHA

EMMA ⑨

KAORU MORI

TRANSLATION: SHELDON DRZKA

LETTERING: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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Chapter 12:
Three Singers
(Part 2)

London

.....

Chapter 12:
Three Singers
(Part 2)

LETTERS THAT YOU HESITATE BEFORE OPENING...

...SHOULDN'T BE READ, MISS LOUISE.

AMELIA!!

WHAT DID YOU DO!?

I KNOW YOU WELL ENOUGH ...

...TO DISCERN HOW YOU FEEL BY THE EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE.

HOW DID YOU KNOW?

IT COULD'VE BEEN IMPORTANT ...!!

REAL-LY?

.....

...ALL RIGHT.

NO, NOT REALLY.

BURNING IT WAS THE PROPER RESPONSE.

LEAVES LESS TO CLEAN UP AFTER-WARD.

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...

...I WAS PONDERING WHETHER TO RIP IT TO SHREDS OR BURN IT.

SAY, AMELIA...

ARE THESE ALL THE LETTERS?

YES. FROM THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW YOU, ANY-WAY.

.....

LIGHT DAY.

IN-DEED.

AND THE REST?

THERE ARE ABOUT TWO BUCKETS' WORTH OF FAN MAIL.

AMELIA, I WANT A CAAAT...

MISS LOU-ISE.

I WANT...

.....

I WANT A CAT...

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, MISS LOUISE?

AMELIA ...

SAY, "MEOW."

MEOW ...

MEOW ...

IT ISN'T AS THOUGH I DESPISE CATS.

I HAVE A CONSTI-TUTIONAL WEAKNESS. THERE ISN'T ANYTHING FOR IT.

FREE TIME...

ANYWAY, YOU'RE BUSY WITH WORK RIGHT NOW.

WHY DON'T YOU KEEP A CAT WHEN YOU HAVE MORE FREE TIME?

LIKE A SMALL CHILD'S CAUGHT YOUR TAIL.

YOU SOUND LIKE AN ILL-HUMOURED CAT.

I FEEL ILL-HUMOURED AT THE MOMENT.

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THINKING OF AGREEING JUST SO YOU CAN HAVE A CAT .?

NO, OF COURSE NOT!

THE TWO TOPICS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ONE AN-OTHER!!

THAT REMINDS ME, AMELIA.

I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD DO ABOUT THAT OTHER SUBJECT .

AMELIA, PLEASE LET ME HEAR YOUR OPINION!

YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I CAN ASK ABOUT THIS!!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. IF I MUST...

I'M FLUM-MOXED.

WELL, IT ISN'T A SUBJECT I FEEL COM-FORTABLE WEIGHING IN ON...

BUT YOU JUST HAVEN'T SET YOUR MIND TO IT...

...AND WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A PUSH.

.....

IT APPEARS TO ME...

...YOU'VE ALREADY MADE YOUR DECISION...

...MISS LOUISE.

THAT'S NOT A VERY GOOD WAY TO LOOK TO SOMEONE FOR HELP

I KNOW

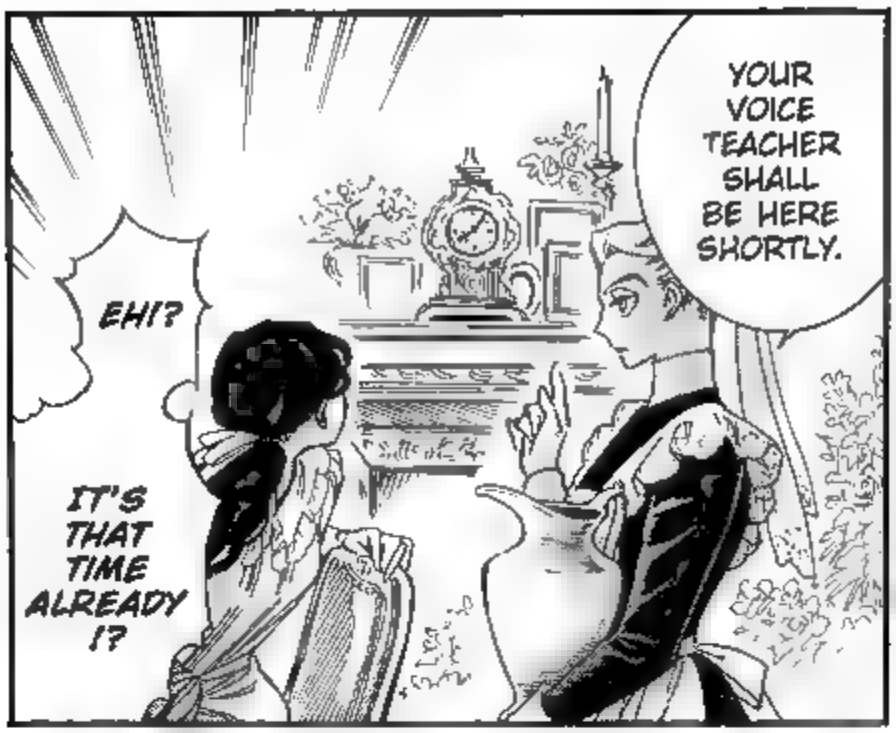
ALL RIGHT, THEN.

I'VE DECIDED.

IT ISN'T AS IF I'M GIVING UP SINGING.

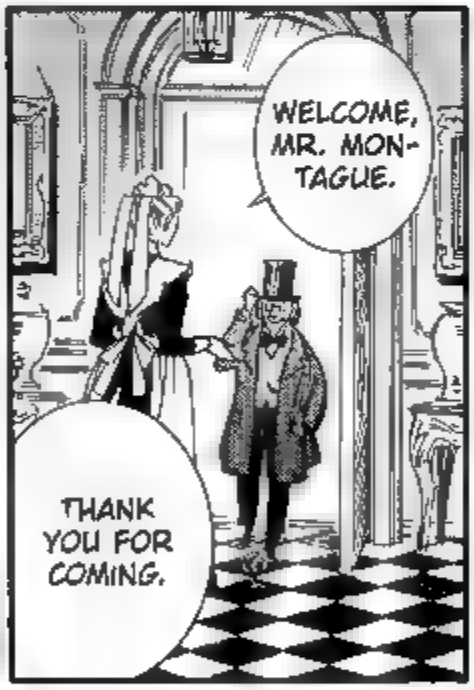
THERE. I'M BEING DECISIVE.

I CAN'T VERY WELL WAVER FOREVER.


YOUR VOICE TEACHER SHALL BE HERE SHORTLY.
EH!?
IT'S THAT TIME ALREADY !?

THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU CAN'T.

THANK YOU, AMELIA.
YOU'RE AS TALL AS EVER TODAY.
THANK YOU.


WELCOME, MR. MONTAGUE.
THANK YOU FOR COMING.

WELL, WELL, LOUISE.
I'M TEN MINUTES LATE, BUT MAYBE THAT WAS STILL TOO EARLY.
OH NO, SIR...

UMM...

MR. MONTAGUE?

MM?

THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.

SUPERB...

.....

NOT RIGHT AWAY, BUT...

RETIRE?

YOU'RE GOING TO RETIRE?

WELL, I'VE STILL BEEN COMING TO MEET WITH YOU...

...BUT IT'S TRUE THERE'S NOT MUCH MORE I CAN TEACH YOU.

BUT I ASSURE YOU...

...I'VE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IT FROM ALL ANGLES.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE EARLY IN YOUR CAREER?

YES.

I WAS THINKING ABOUT CONTINUING MY CAREER BY SINGING IN SMALLER VENUES.

SMALLER VENUES?

AT ANY RATE, I DON'T INTEND TO QUIT SINGING.

JUST RETIRE FROM THE THEATRE.

I CAN EVEN IMAGINE GOING BACK TO THE THEATRE FROM TIME TO TIME...

...BUT WITH A LIMITED NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES.

WELL, THAT'S TRUE.

LIKE SALONS... THERE ARE MANY PLACES THAT WELCOME CHANTEUSES.

I SUPPOSE I WANT TO FOCUS MORE ON THE SINGING ASPECT OF MY CAREER...

...I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK.

THANK YOU.

HM. WELL...

...IF THAT'S YOUR DECISION...

.....

YOU OUGHT TO GO WHILE YOU STILL HAVE THE CHANCE.

UM, MR. MONTAGUE...

.....

COME TO THINK OF IT, AMELIA...

...YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ANY OF LOUISE'S PERFORMANCES YET, HAVE YOU?

...AND?

.....

AMELIA HAS COME TO SEE ME PERFORM BEFORE ...

ONCE.

IT WAS MY FIRST PERFORMANCE ON STAGE, AS A MATTER OF FACT, AND SHE HAD COME TO WITNESS THE OCCASION...

IS THAT SOPRANO A NEWCOMER? SHE'S AWFUL.

SHE WAS SITTING UP IN THE GALLERY AMONG SOME AUDIENCE MEMBERS WHO WERE VERY FORTHCOMING WITH THEIR OPINIONS...

I SEE NO NEED TO RETURN TO AN UNCIVILISED PLACE LIKE THAT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

A DISTUR-BANCE ENSUED...

ACK!

PAN (SMACK)

KEEP YOUR OPINIONS TO YOUR-SELF!!

WHAT THE DEVIL WAS THAT FOR!?

BACK THEN

I HAVE TO ADMIT, I WAS PRETTY BAD...

MMM...

WHEN SOMEONE'S DOING THE BEST SHE CAN, HOW COULD ANYONE THINK TO HECKLE HER!?

AHH, YES. I REMEMBER SOMETHING OF THE SORT.

SO THAT WAS YOUR DOING, EH?

HA HA HA!

AME-LIA!?

OF COURSE, OF COURSE!

CAN I HAVE A LITTLE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT?

DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HOW THE RESULTS OF ALL HER PRACTICING HAVE PAID OFF?

IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD TRY COMING BACK ONE MORE TIME.

NOWADAYS, LOUISE ENJOYS HIGH PRAISE FROM ALL CORNERS.

NO MATTER HOW OFTEN I COME HERE, THERE'S ALWAYS AN ABUNDANCE OF BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

WELL, I SHOULD GET GOING.

THANK YOU FOR THE TEA.

THEY KEEP THE AIR IN HERE FROM GETTING DRY.

TAKE CARE.

...BUT ALAN'S MAKING CONS.D-ERABLE PROG-RESS.

COM-PARED TO YOU AND GEORGE, HE GOT A LATE START ...

YES.

ALTHOUGH I'M SURE YOU'VE NO-TICED, JUST PERFORM-ING WITH HIM.

WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO?

I HAVE A LESSON WITH ALAN AT MY HOME.

ALAN

I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO BUY SOMETHING AS FINE AS THIS ONE OF THESE DAYS.

OH, I'M SURE YOU WILL.

YOU HAVE A VERY NICE PIANO.

THE ONE I HAVE IS SHOT.

AH, EXCUSE ME.

I DON'T MIND.

I FEEL LIKE THE TALENT GAP BETWEEN ME AND THOSE TWO IS ON DISPLAY FOR ALL TO SEE.

OH, DEAR.

HOW GO THE PERFOR-MANCES?

WELL, I EXPECT?

I MAKE IT A POINT NOT TO TEACH PUPILS WHO HAVE NO PROS-PECTS.

IT ONLY RESULTS IN HEART-ACHE FOR THE BOTH OF US.

OH, YES.

THAT REMINDS ME, I JUST CAME FROM LOUISE'S...

WORRY, WORRY, WORRY.

IT'S THE PREROG-ATIVE OF YOUTH WHO HAVE TIME ON THE R HANDS.

IT'S NOTHING NEW TO ME...

I JUST... TO BE HONEST, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

GOOD MORNING, ALAN.

OH, ALAN!

THAT'S RIGHT.

LOUISE, YOU'RE GOING TO RETIRE!?

...AND IT JUST SEEMED LIKE PERFECT TIMING...

MY CONTRACT WITH THE THEATRE IS UP THIS YEAR...

WHY ...?

I CAN LIVE WITH PEOPLE THINKING MY RETIREMENT IS A WASTE OF TALENT.

IT WOULD BE SAD TO RETIRE WHEN EITHER OR BOTH WERE WANING.

BUT WHAT A WASTE.

I'M SURE YOU HAVEN'T REACHED THE HEIGHT OF YOUR POPULARITY... AND YOUR VOICE...

GEORGE ?

YES, WE'D JUST BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT, BUT...

GEORGE'S HOUSE IS NEAR HERE, ISN'T IT?

THEN WHAT WILL YOU DO? MOVE TO THE COUNTRY-SIDE?

I'D HARDLY EVER BE ABLE TO SEE YOU.

OH, WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER OFTEN ENOUGH.

WE'RE GETTING MARRIED, OLD FRIEND.

YOU AND LOUISE?

YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

PAN (SMACK)

WHY, LOUISE CONFESSED THAT SHE'S OVER THE MOON FOR ME AND—

...WHY?

WHY...?

...I SEE.

WHAT!? YOU WERE THE ONE WHO FIRST BROACHED THE SUBJECT OF YOUR FEELINGS TO ME!!

WELL, IT WAS SOME-THING TO THAT EFFECT!

I SAID NO SUCH THING!!

EXCUSE ME!? ALAN, WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?

OH.

NO, I MEAN... GOOD LUCK.

SHE IS LOUISE.

WELL, I GUESS...

...CONGRATULATIONS.

AND WHAT'S WITH THE HAND!?

WHAT'S THE "I GUESS" PART FOR!?

...I KNOW.

I'VE SEEN IT.

HIS HOUSE IS BIG, BUT DIRTY.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU TOO, LOUISE.

THINGS ARE SO HECTIC HERE...

MM, YES...

WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THE DATE.

WE'VE JUST DECIDED TO GET MARRIED— EVERYTHING THAT FOLLOWS IS STILL UP IN THE AIR.

HAVE YOU TOLD EVERYONE?

WE RAN INTO MR. O'CONNOR EARLIER AND TOLD HIM...

...BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY OTHER PERSON SO FAR.

...I'D LOVE TO.

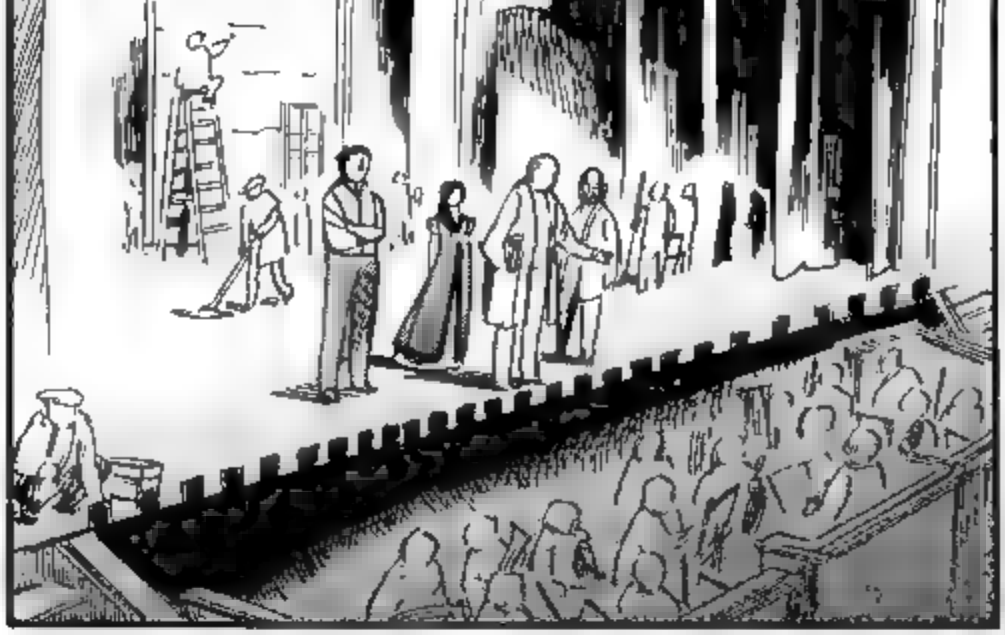
ONCE THINGS SETTLE DOWN, COME OVER TO THE HOUSE.

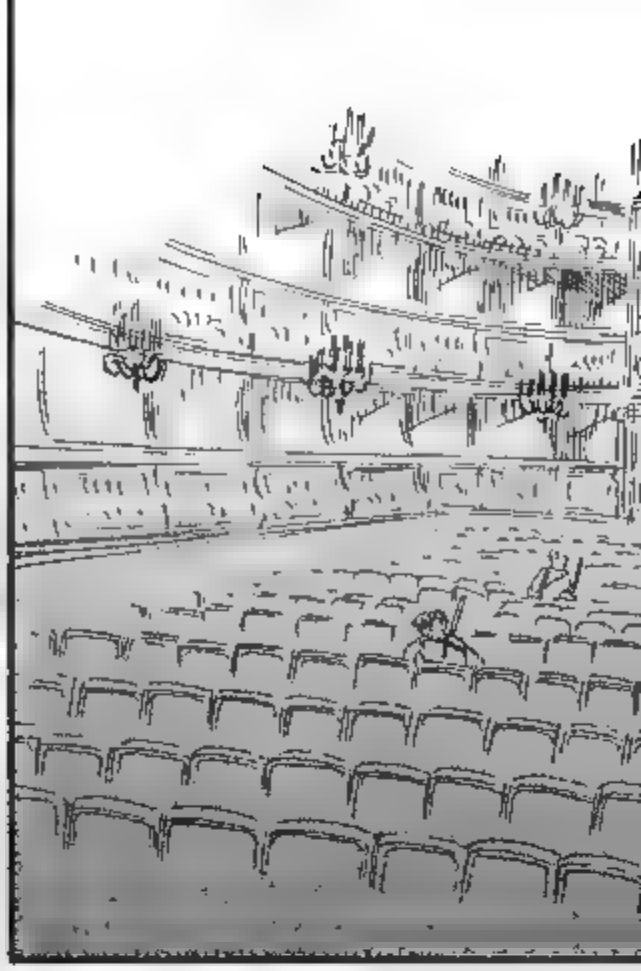
IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SINCE THE THREE OF US HAD DINNER TOGETHER.

ON OUR WAY.

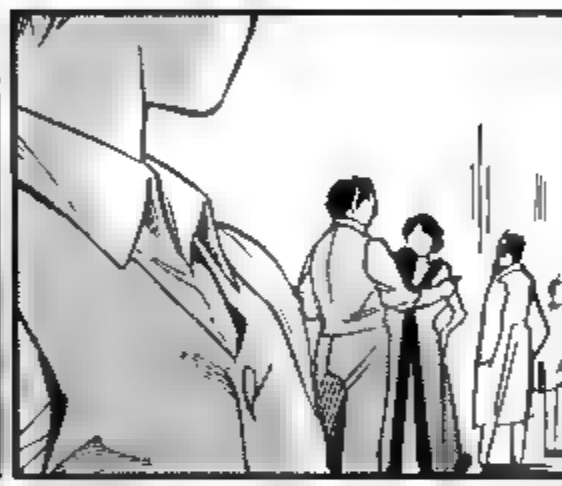
GEORGE! LOUISE!

THEY SENT ME TO CALL YOU TO REHEARSAL!





ALL RIGHT.
ALAN!
ONCE THESE TWO ARE DONE, YOU'RE UP!



MR O'CONNOR?

OH, ALAN!

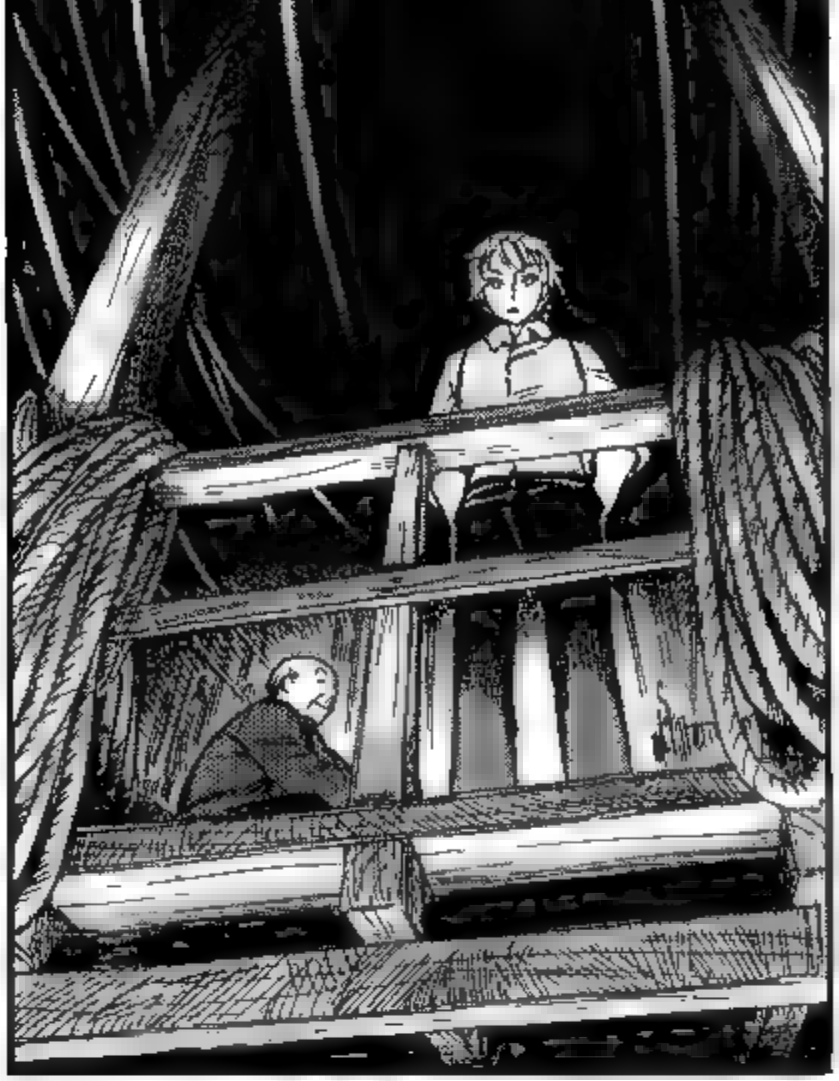
I TOOLE FROM TIME TO TIME

AND THIS ISN'T A BAD PLACE FOR IT

DRINK-ING?

WHAT'S WRONG?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP HERE?



WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP HERE?
I MIGHT ASK YOU THE SAME QUES-TION.

NOTHING ESPE-CIALLY...
JUST... SEEMED LIKE A PLACE TO GO...

MR. O'CON-NOR...
MM?

WHERE'S THIS COMING FROM?

I'M GLAD I GOT THE CHANCE TO PERFORM TOGETHER WITH YOU.

IT'S TRUE.

FROM HERE.

MY HEAD?

BOTH HE AND I...

...GREW UP LOOKING DOWN ON YOUR HEAD.

WELL, I'LL BE...

YOU BOYS TOO, EH?

WE WANTED TO HEAR YOUR PERFORMANCES SO BADLY...

...WE OFTEN SNEAKED UP HERE.

BACK THEN, I LOOKED UPON THE GREAT ITALIAN SINGERS AS GODS.

I DID THE SAME.

BESEECHED THE CURTAIN-PULLER, AND HE LET ME UP HERE.

...YOU'RE A GOD TO ME, MR. O'CONNOR.

WHY, ON STAGE, NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL THE PRIMA DONNA, SHE BECOMES YOUR SWEET-HEART.

I'M ENVI-OUS.

.....

THAT'S ONLY ON STAGE.

ACTUALLY, I LONGED TO BE A BASS LIKE YOU...

...BUT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE QUALITY OF MY VOICE.

HA HA HA.

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH BEING A TENOR.

HAVE YOU HEARD AS WELL?

YES.

THOSE TWO ARE GOING TO GET MARRIED.

In confidenza...
To be honest...

...ha un gran difetto addosso.
...he has one major problem.

Un gran difetto?
A problem?

È innamorato morto.
He is dying of love.

Ah, grande.
Yes, a big one.

Sì, davvero?
Is he really?

Ma è bella?
Is she pretty?

E la sua bella, dite...
And this woman he loves, tell me...

...abita lontano?
...does she live far away?

Oh, no! Cioè...
Oh, no! In fact...

...qui...due passi...
..she's right here. .just two steps away ..

I WONDER IF LOUISE KNOWS...

...HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT HER.

Oh, bella assai!
Oh, pretty enough, I'd say!

...Grassotta, genialotta...
. Deliciously plump and spirited ..

...capello nero, guancia porporina...
...with black hair and rosy cheeks...

Tu non m'inganni?
You're not toying with me, are you?

Dunque io son...
Then it is I...

...la fortunata!
...who am the fortunate girl!

Dunque...
Then...

...io son...
...it is I...

I DON'T THINK SHE DOES.

AND I'D LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

.....

Già me l'ero immaginata...
I had imagined it might be so ere now...

...lo sapevo pria di te.
...I knew even before you told me.

A GUT FEELING, NO MORE.

YET YOU SAW THROUGH ME?

BUT I BELIEVE I'M THE ONLY ONE TO HAVE NOTICED.

AYE, INDEED.

AND I WAS JUST AS SURPRISED TO HEAR THE NEWS AS YOU.

I'D RESOLVED TO TELL HER HOW I FELT AFTER TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE.

CLOSE SHAVE.

I JUST DON'T KNOW.

IS THIS WHAT MY LIFE IS?

CAREFUL SON THAT'S STRONG STUFF

NOT AT ALL, BUT MY GLASS IS...

MIND IF I HAVE A PULL OF THAT?

YOU SURE?

RIGHT FROM THERE IS FINE

....

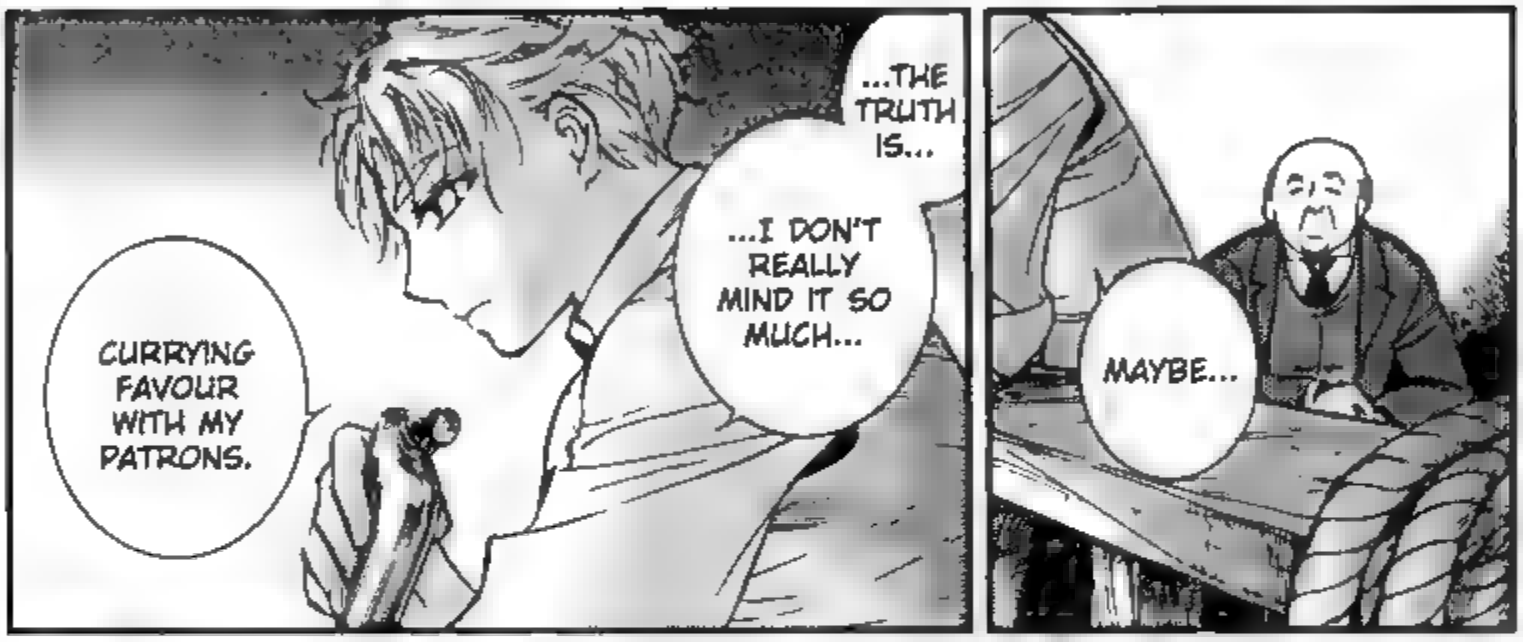
I WANT TO LIVE MY LIFE SINGING.

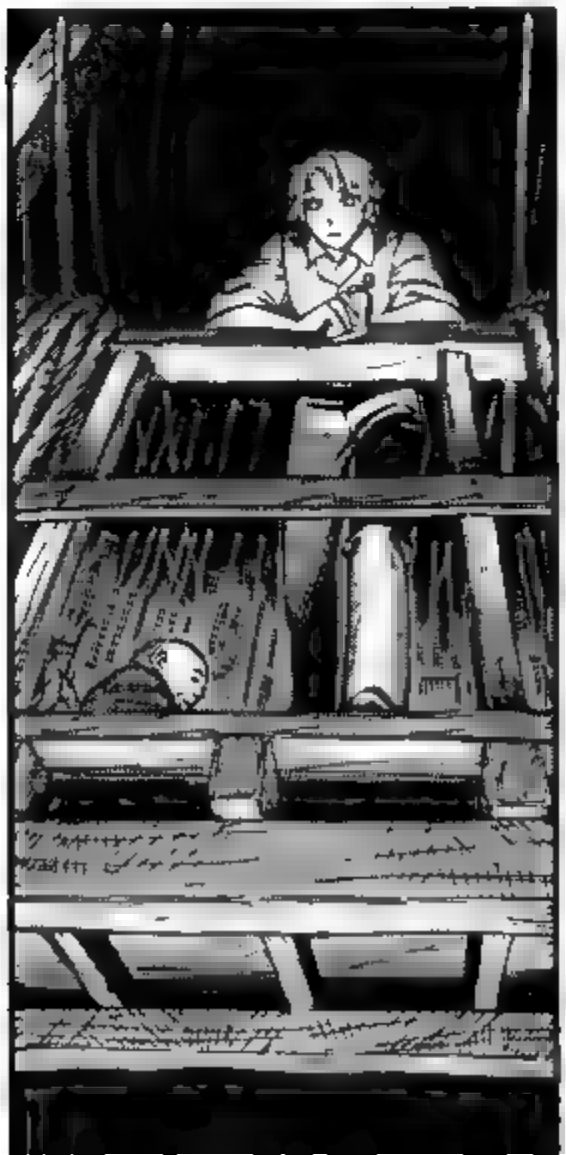
GOOD LORD.

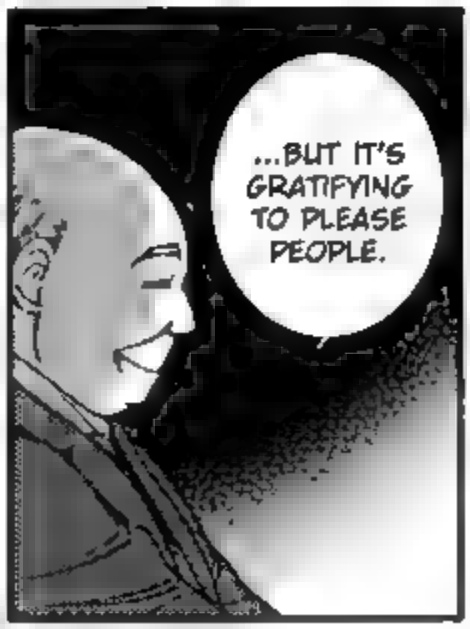
BUT...

...SONGS...

...ARE SUNG BY PEOPLE.


CURRYING FAVOUR WITH MY PATRONS.
...I DON'T REALLY MIND IT SO MUCH...
...THE TRUTH IS...
MAYBE...




...BUT IT'S GRATIFYING TO PLEASE PEOPLE.

THERE ARE CERTAIN ASPECTS I DIS-LIKE...
...AND I THINK IT'S ODD...

DAMMIT, THEY LOOK SO HAPPY TOGETHER.

.....

WHICH ITALIAN SINGER WAS YOUR IDOL, MR. O'CONNOR?

MM?

OH.

THERE WERE SEVERAL.

ALL DEAD NOW THOUGH.

WHO WAS THE BEST?

I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT LIKE THAT.

NO, THEY WERE ALL MAGNIFI-CENT...

...IN THEIR OWN WAY.

PLEASE, TELL ME WHO THEY WERE.

WELL, LET ME SEE...

THE FIRST SINGER I HEARD WAS...

.....

?
DO YOU SMELL LIQUOR?
MUST BE YOUR IMAGINA-TION.
LET'S HAVE GEORGE AND ALAN RUN THROUGH IT ONCE!
THANK YOU, LOUISE!
ALL RIGHT.
ALAN! HE WANTS YOU AND GEORGE ON STAGE.
OH!
AREN'T YOU FULL OF SPIRIT?
COME ON, GEORGE!
YOU READY!?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT?
AH, GO AHEAD.
THE POWER OF DESPAIR CAN BE A GREAT THING.
I SUP-POSE...
BUT KEEPING IN HIGH SPIRITS IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN GET THROUGH THIS.

GO AHEAD.

PARDON ME, DO YOU MIND IF I SIT NEXT TO YOU?

EXCUSE ME...

CAN YOU READ?

LET ME SEE...

WE COULD USE MORE BOX SEATS...

THEY'RE PACKED IN UP AT THE TOP.

HOW'S THE CROWD?

NOT BAD.

I KNOW HIM, YOU KNOW.

A COUNT!?

MY, THAT'S AMAZING! HE MUST BE VERY IMPOR-TANT!

AND I'M A FRIEND OF MISS LOUISE.

MISS LOUISE ?

AMELIA, THIS IS TOO SOON!!

HANG ON A TIC. NEXT TO HER...IS THAT...?

SHE'S HERE ...?

AMELIA ...!!

HERE, "ROSINA."

THE MOST IMPORTANT CHARACTER OF ALL.

REALLY? MORE IMPORTANT THAN A COUNT?

ULP... ALL OF A SUDDEN, MY BUTTER-FLIES HAVE BUTTER-FLIES...

MINE TOO...

COME ON, LET'S KNOCK 'EM DEAD!!

OH!

COME ON, BOTH OF YOU!!